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THE  
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION  
—OF THE—  
ASSOCIATION  
—OF—  
Directors of the Poor  
AND CHARITIES  
—OF THE—  
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
—HELD AT—  
SOMERSET, PA.,  
October 14, 15, and 16, 1902.

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HERALD PRINT.  
1902.





**MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION.**

From a photograph taken before Highland Inn, at Somerset, on Wednesday, October 15, 1902.



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nerset ..... 10  
Mrs. Harvey M. Berk-  
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alf of Children's Aid  
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Erie..... 16  
l Hospitals"—Mr. Reo  
..... 34  
Power for Good with  
William H. Koontz,  
..... 38  
aws, Suggestions, and  
iladelphia..... 44  
..... 19  
..... 27

Smith, Chester..... 21  
n"—Mrs. H. L. Ran-  
..... 25  
titutions"—Mr. E. E.  
..... 28  
ment"—Mr. W. W.  
..... 31  
How to Deal with  
..... 25  
ospital"—Mr. J. S.  
..... 36  
quent Children, and  
'—Mrs. E. S. Lind-  
..... 41

Township Officials  
pidemics of Small-

"The World's Greatest Economic Bookbindery"

..... Disease in the State of Pennsylva-  
nia"—Dr. Benjamin Lee, Philadelphia ..... 54  
"Condition of the Feeble-Minded of Western Pennsylvania and of  
the School at Polk"—Dr. J. M. Murdock, Venango..... 49  
"Shall Curfew Ring at Night?"—Rev. C. F. Gebhart, Lavansville.. 60  
"Epileptics; the Necessity of a State Hospital for Their Care and  
Treatment"—Mr. E. E. Allshouse, Westmoreland..... 71  
"Sanitary Arrangements, Water Supplies, and Sewerage"—Mr.  
Thomas J. Hughes, Cambria ..... 74

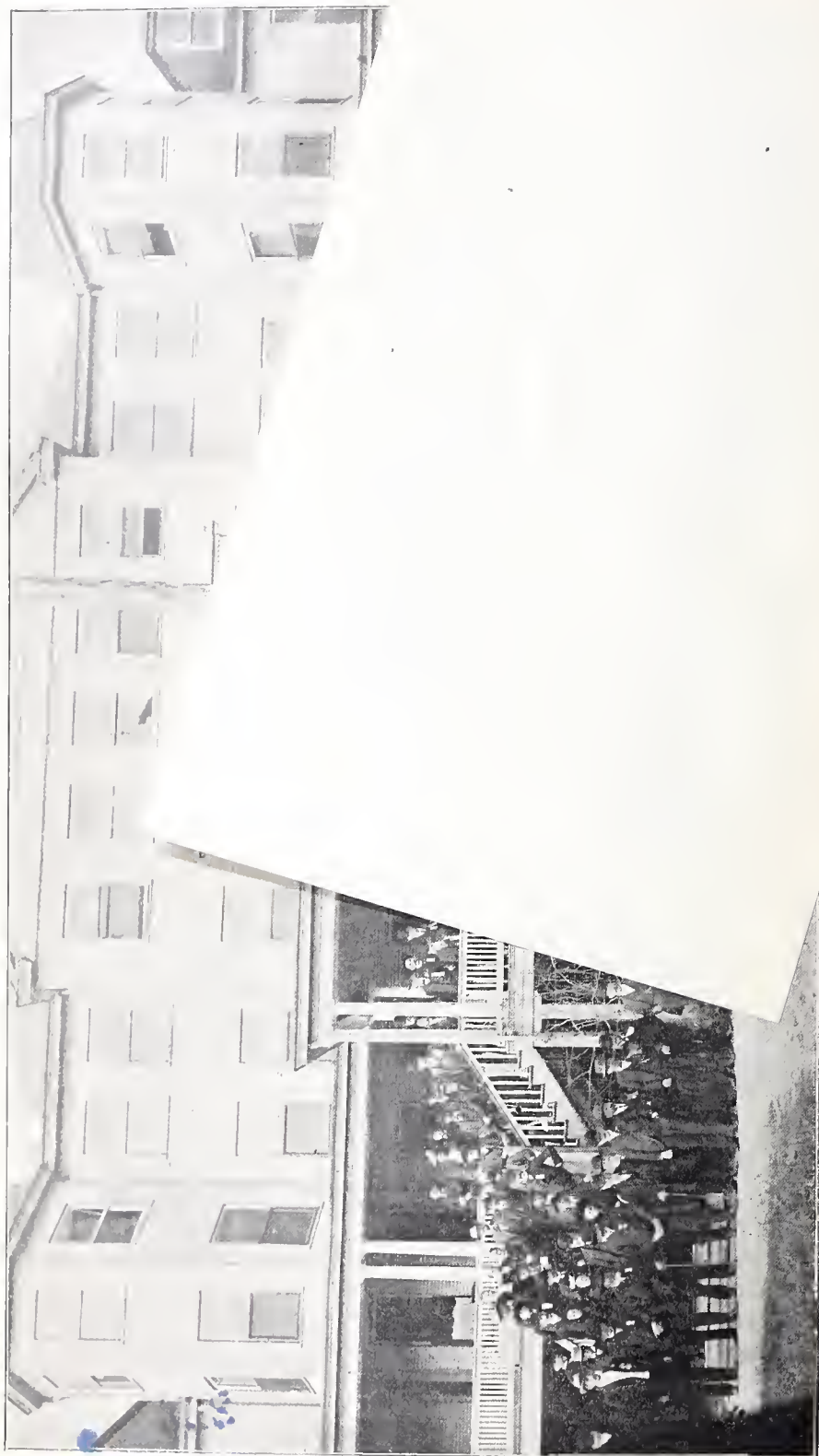
### HISTORICAL SKETCH—

"The Somerset County Home"—Mr. George H. Smith..... 75

### REPORTS—

Committee on Place of Next Meeting ..... 43  
Treasurer's Report ..... 47  
Auditing Committee ..... 48  
Committee on Officers ..... 63  
Committee on Resolutions ..... 63

225111



MEMBERS OF THE  
From a photograph taken before Highland Inn, at Sonoma

## INDEX.

### ADDRESSES—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Address of Welcome—Rev. Peter Vogel, Somerset .....  | 10 |
| Welcome on Behalf of Somerset Ladies—Mrs. Harvey M. Berkeley, Somerset .....   | 11 |
| Response to Address of Welcome—Mr. Frederick Fuller, Scranton. 12  |    |
| Response to Address of Welcome on Behalf of Children's Aid Society and Ladies—Mrs. Virginia L. Blood, Brookville.....              | 14 |
| Address of the President—Hon. E. P. Gould, Erie.....   | 16 |
| "Spiritual Ministrations of Almshouses and Hospitals"—Mr. Reo S. Kauffman, Lancaster .....   | 34 |
| "Our Republic; Its Practicability and Its Power for Good with Reference to Work of Charity"—Hon. William H. Koontz, Somerset ..... | 38 |
| "The Poor and State Charities, Laws, Reviews, Suggestions, and Remedies"—Hon. Cadwalader Biddle, Philadelphia.....                 | 44 |
| Enrollment of Delegates .....  | 19 |
| Committees Appointed .....   | 27 |

### PAPERS—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| "The Work of Our Association"—Mr. John L. Smith, Chester.....  | 21 |
| "Home Versus Institutional Life for Children"—Mrs. H. L. Rankin, Fayette .....   | 25 |
| "The Old Versus the New in Charitable Institutions"—Mr. E. E. Long, Montgomery .....   | 28 |
| "Defects in Modern Institutional Management"—Mr. W. W. Cessna, Bedford .....   | 31 |
| "Discipline of Almshouses and Hospitals; How to Deal with Tramps"—Mr. Henry Wiggins, Fayette .....   | 35 |
| "The Provisioning of an Almshouse and Hospital"—Mr. J. S. Strine, Lancaster .....  | 36 |
| "The Responsibility of the State to the Delinquent Children, and the Future of the Children's Aid Society"—Mrs. E. S. Lindsey, Warren .....  | 41 |
| "The Relative Duties of State, County, and Township Officials and Labor Contractors in the Control of Epidemics of Smallpox or Other Contagious Disease in the State of Pennsylvania"—Dr. Benjamin Lee, Philadelphia ..... | 54 |
| "Condition of the Feeble-Minded of Western Pennsylvania and of the School at Polk"—Dr. J. M. Murdock, Venango.....   | 49 |
| "Shall Curfew Ring at Night?"—Rev. C. F. Gebhart, Lavansville..  | 60 |
| "Epileptics; the Necessity of a State Hospital for Their Care and Treatment"—Mr. E. E. Allshouse, Westmoreland.....  | 71 |
| "Sanitary Arrangements, Water Supplies, and Sewerage"—Mr. Thomas J. Hughes, Cambria .....  | 74 |

### HISTORICAL SKETCH—

|   |    |
|---|----|
| "The Somerset County Home"—Mr. George H. Smith..... | 55 |
|---|----|

### REPORTS—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Committee on Place of Next Meeting ..... | 43 |
| Treasurer's Report .....                 | 47 |
| Auditing Committee .....                 | 48 |
| Committee on Officers .....              | 63 |
| Committee on Resolutions .....           | 63 |

## APPENDIX.

---

### REPORTS OF DISTRICTS AND SOCIETIES—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Allegheny County—Allegheny City Home ..... | 78 |
| Allegheny County Home .....                | 78 |
| Bedford County .....                       | 79 |
| Chester County—Home and Hospital .....     | 79 |
| Children's Aid Society .....               | 80 |
| Erie County .....                          | 80 |
| Fayette County—Home .....                  | 81 |
| Children's Aid Society .....               | 81 |
| Franklin County .....                      | 82 |
| Huntingdon County .....                    | 82 |
| Lackawanna County .....                    | 83 |
| Lancaster County .....                     | 84 |
| Luzerne County—Central Poor District ..... | 84 |
| Montgomery County .....                    | 86 |
| York County .....                          | 86 |



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## ORGANIZATION FOR 1903.

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|                                 |   |   |   |   |   |                                       |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
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# COMMITTEES.

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## OFFICERS.

ROBERT D. McGONNIGLE, Chairman ..... Allegheny County.  
Mrs. J. G. OGLE ..... Somerset County.  
J. S. STRINE ..... Lancaster County.  
GEORGE F. SUMMERS ..... Franklin County.  
JAMES W. BARKER ..... Delaware County.

## FINANCE AND AUDITING.

JOHN WILSON ..... Washington County.  
J. M. MURDOCK ..... Venango County.  
WILLIAM M. BROWN ..... Erie County.

## PLACE OF MEETING.

FREDERICK FULLER ..... Lackawanna County.  
CLAYTON NISSLEY ..... Lancaster County.  
C. A. WESTFIELD ..... Luzerne County.  
GEORGE H. SMITH ..... Somerset County.  
E. E. AHL ..... Lycoming County.  
PHILIP HARTZOG ..... Cambria County.

## LEGISLATION.

S. W. DAVENPORT ..... Luzerne County.  
R. D. McGONNIGLE ..... Allegheny County.  
J. W. BARKER ..... Delaware County.  
FREDERICK FULLER ..... Lackawanna County.  
P. H. BRIDENBAUGH ..... Blair County.  
L. C. COLBORN ..... Somerset County.

## PROGRAM.

FREDERICK FULLER ..... Lackawanna County.  
P. H. BRIDENBAUGH ..... Blair County.  
Mrs. M. O. KOOSER ..... Somerset County.  
J. L. SMITH ..... Chester County.  
CLAYTON L. NISSLEY ..... Lancaster County.  
M. D. PORMAN ..... York County.

## RESOLUTIONS.

B. F. MADORE ..... Bedford County.  
JOHN T. LYNCH ..... Lackawanna County.  
D. L. O'NEIL ..... Luzerne County.  
JOHN H. McDOWELL ..... Montgomery County.  
Mrs. PARKER BLOOD ..... Jefferson County.  
C. K. HORTON ..... Huntingdon County.  
HENRY WIGGINS ..... Fayette County.  
Mrs. MAY BIESECKER ..... Somerset County.



TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
Association of Directors of the Poor and Charities  
OF THE  
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
HELD IN THE  
COURTHOUSE, SOMERSET, PA.  
OCTOBER 14, 15, AND 16, 1902.

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The Twenty-eighth Annual Convention of the Association of the Directors of the Poor and Charities of Pennsylvania convened at the Courthouse in the village of Somerset on the 14th day of October, 1902, and was called to order by President E. P. Gould.

Selections were rendered by the Somerset Concert Orchestra, which were highly enjoyed by those present.

In opening the Convention President Gould said:

The time has arrived for the calling to order of the Twenty-eighth Annual Convention of the Directors of the Poor and Charities of Pennsylvania.

It is a fact which history records that public charity exists in its highest state in Christian countries, and the measure of the religious development of a country can be very well represented or determined by the charitable spirit of its citizens.

That being a fact, it is very proper that our exercises should be opened by an appeal to the overruling God who controls all things, and therefore the Convention will rise while Rev. Robert L. Patterson, of Somerset, leads us in prayer.

Rev. Patterson then made the opening prayer, as follows:

Almighty and most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and through Him our Father, we laud and magnify Thy great and holy name. We give thanks unto Thee for all Thy goodness and tender mercy, especially for the gift of Thy dear Son. We praise Thee for our creation; we thank Thee that Thou hast made us in Thine own image and after Thine own likeness. Thou hast crowned us with glory and honor, but we are bound to acknowledge that sin has marred Thine image and despoiled Thy likeness. The presence of sickness, of ignorance, of poverty, and of crime in the world testify to the spoiling of Thy glorious work by sin, but we glorify Thee because Thou hast, in Thine infinite love for us, provided a way of salvation. We thank Thee that sin and evil shall not always triumph, but that Thy grace is extended to all Thy creatures. Oh, Christ, our blessed Savior, we thank Thee that

Thou hast come into the world for our redemption; we owe it to Thy redemptive love that we are here to-day in the enjoyment of so many earthly blessings. We thank Thee for health of body and of mind, and for those moral and spiritual qualities which Thou hast wrought in us by Thy spirit, and now, we beseech Thee, let Thy blessing abide upon us as we enter upon the duties of this Convention. We thank Thee for the many eleemosynary institutions represented here. We pray Thee to direct these enterprises to the glory of Thy name and to the good of mankind. Bless the officers and all those responsible for this Convention, and crown their labors with success. Bless those who shall speak to us, and may Thy spirit dwell in them.

We pray Thy blessing upon all institutions of love and mercy, those fostered by the church and those maintained by us as citizens of the State, and we acknowledge Thee, oh Christ, as the source of them all. Hasten the day when Thy kingdom shall triumph and Thy glory be revealed. We long for the time when ignorance and sin shall no more find a place in this world. Oh, Lord, give us a part, as Thy servants, in bringing in this glorious day; direct us in the way in which we should go, and when we have finished our work upon earth receive us all unto Thyself in heaven, and Thy name shall have the praise throughout the endless ages of eternity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

The Convention was here favored with a fine rendition of "The Heavens Are Telling" by the choir of the Christian Church of Somerset.

The address of welcome, which was assigned on the program to Hon. Francis J. Kooser, of Somerset, was made by Rev. Peter Vogel, of Somerset, who was introduced to the Convention by Mr. L. C. Colborn, and who spoke as follows:

Mr. President, Ladies, and Gentlemen.

Judge Kooser was to perform this pleasant task, but, not feeling well, and having an uncle lying on his bier, waiting for the burial, I have been asked to say a word of welcome to you.

Mr. President and members of the Associated Charities, in welcoming you I realize that we are welcoming one of the ripest fruits of Christianity.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

"Suffer the little ones to come unto me, and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

"Pure religion and undefiled is this: To visit the fatherless and widows."

Early in the history of Christianity people associated together for mutual helpfulness began by having all things in common, as each one had need distributing to him. Wherever Christianity has gone charities have been the fruitage. Where no charities exist Christianity has never existed.

In the latter part of the second century Celsus, an apostate Christian, tried to stir up an idolatrous world by the argument that they ought to have something to show, in order to demonstrate the fruitage of their religion as compared with Christianity, but he failed.

In the beginning of this century, or rather, in its first third, Harmony was founded in Indiana to show what an infidel town could do, but the wreck of the instrument is there, and all the "harmony" gone. Later Liberty was founded in Missouri. No Christian was ever to set his foot in it. But where is Liberty to-day? A beautiful name, but no reality. Two institutions built by infidels are in existence in this country now, one in the East and one in the far West, but they have only a name to live.

Take one look across the waters. In France, with ninety-seven per cent of its inhabitants who do not read the Bible and three per cent only of Protestants who read it, the MacMahon ministry of nine members had five Protestants in it. It is the Word of God that lifts us up, and has given us this fruitage that you represent to-day.

Therefore we are glad to welcome you to Somerset County, a daughter of old Bedford, but long since of age. The daughter is not



only younger, but larger and handsomer than the mother. Fifty thousand inhabitants and more. We are mostly a rural people, on our 1,100 square miles of acreage, bounded on the east by the Alleghenies, on the west by the Laurel Hills, on the south by Maryland, on the north almost by Johnstown, not far from where only a year ago we killed a bear. [Laughter.] Don't be frightened. You might have to hunt a long time to find another.

When I first knew Somerset, as an adopted son, we did not raise our own wheat. We didn't know that we could grow wheat here, and now there is only one other spot on the face of the earth where the same high quality of grain is grown, and that is in a portion of Minnesota. Not only have we prospered in this way, but our coal fields are being developed; numerous companies are doing a prosperous business. There is oil and gas here, although we haven't developed it yet; but there are places where we can set the face of the ground on fire and so we know it is here.

We have 334 public schools, ninety-five of them graded. Churches on almost every hilltop and in almost every valley, and so many other things I would like to tell you about. But I want to welcome you to Somerset itself; the highest county seat in the State—2,208 feet above sea level in our courtyard—and a place noted for its talent. Here was the birthplace and here the home of Chauncey Forward, of Charles Ogle, and of Jeremiah S. Black. Of the first two, a noted Judge said he had never seen their superiors anywhere, if their equals, and you all know what a giant Jeremiah S. Black was. The sons and daughters of these men still live here.

We welcome you to Somerset because of its hospitable people, because of its generous hearts and its open doors. We have many things of which we are proud. Our Village Association of Ladies; our Women's Christian Temperance Union; our Sanitarium, on the hill; our Musical College that we have just started, and many other things that I will not take time to mention. But with a free heart and a sincere will do we bid you welcome. Be at home. [Applause.]

Mr. COLBORN: As Brother Vogel has given you a generous welcome, one and all, seeing so many of the better halves of our lots present, I now have the pleasure of introducing Mrs. Harvey M. Berkley, who will specially welcome the ladies.

Mrs. Berkley responded by reading the following address of welcome:

Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the Association of the Directors of the Poor and Charities of Pennsylvania.

It is both my pleasure and my duty, on behalf of the ladies of Somerset, to welcome you all to our midst, for deliberation, for consultation, and mutual encouragement in this great work, which is claiming the time and attention of many of the best and most earnest men and women of this Commonwealth. We cannot introduce you here to the airs, graces, and diversified interests and pleasures of great cities. We are unable to devote a day to showing you our vast iron mills and industrial establishments. But such as we have we give unto you freely and without stint. Lacking these great industries with which the world is throbbing now, and which are developing our great "captains of industry," we still lay claim to great distinction. Our chief claim to eminence is our high altitude. You could meet in no other county seat in the State and deliberate 2,250 feet above the sea level. We believe that nowhere else could you be fanned by such a kindly, nipping, all-embracing breeze as will greet you here in the early morning or during the lagging hours of the day. I hope each of you will experience the truth of Riley's words in "Mongst the Hills o' Somerset," where he says:

"How 't would rest a man like me  
Jest fer 'bout an hour to be  
Up there where the morning air  
Could reach out an' ketch me there;  
Snatch my breath away, and then  
Rench and give it back again,  
Fresh as dew."

I commend this quotation as a sort of living picture, a holding of the mirror up to nature in a way that none but an old residenter can appreciate. If Riley never lived here in the winter before he penned these lines he must have written with the pen of inspiration.

But even if we are lacking in great industries, fine buildings, and elegant streets, we certainly do have some other good things—late trains and elegant appointments in the weather line. The uncertainty of our weather is its most bewitching element. You will be fortunate if you cannot count 100 varieties of it before you leave. Besides all these, you need not watch for street cars. They will not run over you—but do keep looking out for the weather. It promised yesterday to be most interesting to-day. In addition to these other matters, we do most heartily welcome you and introduce you to our bewitching autumn foliage; our good country roads; our historic environment; our kind-hearted citizenship; our open homes, and the generous impulses of our people, of whom, we trust, you shall take with you none but kindly memories.

You will find us interested in the work of these Associations, in the spread of their influence, in the perfection of their methods of work, and the right extension of their greatest effort and usefulness. If, by anything we may do, we shall be able to assist you in this noble work, count the ladies of Somerset as your "tenth legion" to give the helping hand.

In his "Complaint of the Decay of Beggars in the Metropolis," Charles Lamb advises us to "act a charity sometimes." Shakespeare, too, says: "Shut not thy purse strings always against painted distress." These are two authorities of highest merit. But you also have a Bible precept which you exemplify in your devotion to this humanitarian duty.

Always, in every age, the followers of duty and principle are they whose names are most honored and revered. In the imposing troupe of worldly grandeur that held the reins of governments when the Pilgrims emigrated to Plymouth Rock for conscience's sake, what individual of them all is remembered but with contempt, if we except Gustavus Adolphus? Confront the Pilgrims of the Mayflower with the kings, the dukes, the princes, who occupied the powers of the world at that time, and it is the former who are ascending into the firmament, there to shine forever, while the latter are sinking in the darkness of oblivion, to be brought forth only to point a moral or illustrate the fame of a contemporary whom they regarded not. Here is an important illustration of the triumph of the moral over the earthly.

I see from the program there is yet much to be done at this session, and I will not further trespass upon the time of those to follow after, except now I wish to say to you for the ladies of Somerset: "Here are the keys of the city; enter and possess the land. We know we have everything to gain and nothing to lose from your association with us."

The Convention was entertained with music by the Somerset Concert Orchestra.

Frederick Fuller, of Scranton, responded to the address of welcome, as follows:

Mr. President, and the Lady and Gentleman Who Have So Cordially Greeted Us, and Members of the Convention.

King Solomon has said that a word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. And such are the words of cheer we have just received.

You know that all reforms, and all conventions and gatherings that have for their purpose reform and the best welfare of society, always have their opponents—those who adversely criticise and find fault. Now, these critics—for such they are—are the adverse of the cheering words we have received to-day. Of course we believe that we are a great blessing to society, angels of mercy, and all that, but it is more pleasant to hear it from the lips of strangers.

Now, those people who so adversely criticise us and find fault with us carry it to extremes. I have heard people say that if it wasn't for us there wouldn't be so many paupers, and I presume they would say that if there weren't superintendents of insane asylums there would be no insane. I think they haven't yet charged us with being the cause of

the anthracite coal strike [Laughter], and we have cheering word now that points towards a settlement of that. I am reminded of the story of a man who had been married but a short time when the fearful calamity happened on Mt. Pelee. He said it was quite a comfort to him to refer to that calamity because it was the only thing that had happened since his marriage that his wife hadn't blamed him for. [Laughter.]

About the time that the Government of the United States was making a little preparation to wipe out the power of Spain from the international slate I saw a cartoon in one of the New York papers. Uncle Sam was pictured as a photographer taking the picture of a Spaniard. He had fixed his camera, with a cannon hanging up on the wall, and he says to the Spaniard: "Now place your eye on the cannon and look pleasant." And that is the way we will treat our critics, only we will load that cannon with ideas and principles, instead of with powder and shot.

Some people ask, "Why this Convention?" It is one of the essential factors since the world stood. All classes of men and women hold conventions. It was a convention held at Faneuil Hall in Boston that gave birth to the spirit of liberty and independence. Temperance people hold conventions; religious people hold conventions; lawyers hold conventions, and even politicians hold conventions [Laughter], and we have as much right as any of them; and we think in many respects greater rights.

We are builders, as each one of us is building a character, consciously or unconsciously. It is the only possession that we will take out of this world, and we want to be certain that that character will stand the test. We are building a temple dedicated to man, and the foundation of it is Christianity; its corner stone is man's humanity to man, and the cap sheaf is charity, while over and above all floats the banner of love, and this Convention is in the nature of a scaffolding for building this temple. It is absolutely necessary in building to have scaffolding, and that is what this Convention is. We have been building this temple for twenty-eight years, and it is still growing. It will continue to grow after we have passed from the stage of action, and will go on and on until it reaches its climax.

The lawmakers of the State don't see fit to help us very much, so we have to get along the best we can, and we will be like the Gentiles of old, in Paul's time. Not having the law, they became a law unto themselves, and we will do that, until we mould public opinion so that the lawmakers some day will frame laws such as we ought to have. Until that time we must do our work to the best of our judgment, and with all fidelity to the cause.

I heard a minister say not long ago that if all the miracles in the Bible were wiped out he would be satisfied with the miracle of the charity that is inherent in unregenerate man, and the fact that Christianity has so transformed man as to put it into his heart to be willing and anxious to do for his fellow-man—that he considered was a miracle, and I think it is.

Perhaps never before has wealth been accumulated with the rapidity that it has at the present time, and never before has it been so unstintingly used for charity as at the present day. We must not find fault with the wealthy man because he had made his millions and gives away his hundreds of thousands; it is to be admired. But there is a greater and higher gift than that, even if you had your millions to give, and that is the giving of yourself to humanity. You remember when St. Peter went into the Temple at Jerusalem he met at the Gate Beautiful a cripple who had been so from birth, and who asked St. Peter for alms. St. Peter said, "Wealth and honor have I none, but such as I have give I unto thee," and taking the cripple by the hand he lifted him up, and he was cured. This is the grandest object lesson of giving one's self on record. Many a person in distress and sorrow does not want your gold and silver, but wants your love and sympathy, and the giving of one's self is the climax of generosity.

All classes and conditions of society are deeply interested in the institutions of charity. The wealthy may give of their gifts and you may not call it unselfish, but there may be a little grain of selfishness in it, because there is nothing so uncertain as wealth. It takes unto itself wings and flies away, and he who gives of his wealth may have it in his



mind that some day he will be glad to accept the hospitality of the institution that he has given his money to.

As to the importance of the results that we as representatives have to attend to, what would be the condition of society if all the inmates of almshouses and asylums were turned loose on the community, simply to prove the vital importance of the work we have on hand? If there be one of us here who does not love his work, he better get out of it. There is no success in life unless you love the work you are doing.

When you see the distress about you and the good that you have the opportunity of doing, I haven't any doubt that you all love the work.

The Committee on Arrangements said that insanity and pauperism was greatly on the increase. That may be so, but I will read a few words, an extract of the speech of Gov. Odell, of New York, at the laying of a corner stone at Dobbs Ferry, N. Y. Gov. Odell has given this matter of charity his personal attention and he speaks with authority, and I have great faith in what he says, so far as New York State is concerned. He says:

"I am grateful for the privilege you have afforded, for the opportunity that has been presented which enables me to participate in the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of your hospital. There is no stronger sentiment in the human breast, none that makes a people more respected or draws them closer together than the desire to minister to the wants of the needy; to alleviate the sufferings of the distressed, and to encourage those upon whom the hand of adversity has fallen. This sentiment marks the progress of civilization. There is perhaps no avenue through which the early training of youth and the maturer thought of old age find more ready facilities for the benefactions than in the distribution of such aid. We have often heard the expression that as the world has grown older, bitterness, discontent and the misery of the people have increased; that the arrogance of wealth has become a menace to the freedom of our institutions, and that the cries of the suffering fall upon dulled ears and excite derision rather than sympathy. I am not one of those who believe this. While it is true that there is brought to our attention day by day stories of follies and vices and sufferings which seem in the aggregate to have increased greatly over the earlier days, yet we should understand that it is rather the increased facilities which have been accorded in laying before us the daily news of the world that makes the sum total of unhappiness appear to be greater than it really is. We forget that increased population brings with it greater numbers who demand attention, sympathy, and charity. We should also bear in mind that although the aggregate of numbers may be greater, the percentage of our population which may require assistance is much below that of earlier days."

That is encouraging. I hope the same condition applies to our own Commonwealth. It is said virtue is its own reward, but there is a greater reward. You remember what the Master said about the cup of cold water. Let our devotion to our duties be of such a character that we will gladly hear the welcome plaudit some day, "Well done, good and faithful servants." [Applause.]

Mr. Colburn said if we would come to Somerset he would promise us buckwheat cakes and honey. Now if he fulfills this promise to us we will render proper thanks, and turn summersets. [Laughter.] The Committee on Arrangements got poetical and said they would like to have us come

"When the frost is on the pumpkin  
And the corn is in the shock."

There may be frost on the pumpkin, but there is no frost on this Convention. [Applause.]

The President called upon Mrs. Virginia L. Blood, of Brookville, to respond in behalf of the Children's Aid Society and ladies.

Mrs. Blood was warmly welcomed, and spoke as follows:  
Friends of Somerset.

On behalf of the Children's Aid Society I voice our sincere and cordial thanks—first for your most kindly invitation to come to the beautiful "Hills o' Somerset." In extending this invitation you substantiated your claim to good taste and judgment, and our hearts

promptly responded, "We will go!" And now we thank you for this courteous greeting and these cheering, friendly words of welcome—and incidentally for the whole-hearted way in which we have been "taken in and done for."

Through the harmony of every thoughtful life there throbs a minor chord telling of the suffering of the "submerged tenth." The wee child, neglected, abandoned; or the adult, incapable or unfortunate. Sympathy brings pain to the pitying heart. Haven't we all found this to be the case? One of the things that makes life hard is to be burdened with the sorrows of others. While true comparison leads to strenuous effort to lift up the weak and helpless, we have added yet another burden—the formidable yet delicate question of plans and methods of work. The combination forms an infallible prescription for bringing gray hairs to any head.

But we have done our work as best we could, with many mistakes and failures. Coming here on the cars I bought a ten-cent magazine and ruthlessly mutilated it by cutting out a little scrap that if you will permit me I will read. It expresses so well my feelings in regard to our work, and impressed me greatly.

"The work of our hands, establish Thou it,  
How often with thoughtless lips we pray;  
But He who sits in the heavens shall say:  
'Is the work of your hands so fair and fit  
That you dare thus to pray?'  
Stately we answer: 'Lord, make it fit—  
The work of our hands—that so we may  
Lift up our eyes and dare to pray,  
The work of our hands, establish Thou it.'"

This is an age of merciless logic. Theories are futile—"flat, stale, and unprofitable," unless they stand the test of common sense—or what the gentleman who has just preceded me calls "horse sense"—and the test of actual use.

One point I consider irrevocably settled. Mr. Fuller has so well stated what I would say that I will only touch upon it. The thought is this: This work cannot be done at arms' length, or by red tape. There must be the personal touch; nay, more than that even, the loving grasp. Some one has aptly said that "Salvation by tongs is a failure." The fruit of our labors must be hand-picked, and that means giving not only time and strength and money, but ourselves.

Personal contact with the classes we try to benefit is not always pleasant, and leads to weariness of body and spirit. To us who are workers and who have been in the crucible of trial, we come to this Convention craving not only the refreshment of reunion with friends, but the uplift which the novice gains from the experience and wisdom of the trained master workman.

We anticipate a most helpful and successful Convention. We have come here expecting much. We have not been disappointed, and feel sure we will not be. We are prepared to enjoy the Convention, especially as we hear the bear was killed last winter and we are likely to be unmolested during our stay.

I have not prepared myself to speak at length—neither at any depth, or height, or breadth—and so will only say we appreciate your proffered hospitality and will try not to disappoint your reasonable faith in us.

And as Mrs. Berkley has so kindly given us the freedom of the city, we promise to conduct ourselves with due propriety and not ask for a night key.

The following remarks on the history of the Association were made by R. D. McGonnigle, of Pittsburg:

While Mrs. Blood was talking it occurred to me I might put myself on record and say a few words in regard to the history of this Association, as there is possibly no one in the room who remembers our last meeting at Somerset more distinctly than I.

Up to that time we had met simply as men. Practically no women met with us. But when we met here twenty years ago there came among us a little woman, Mrs. E. A. Puncheon, of Philadelphia. For



years we had been wondering what we were going to do with the children in the almshouses, and this little woman said: "I represent the Children's Aid Society of Philadelphia, and I have come prepared to say to you men that we will take charge of the children in your almshouses, and all we want you to do is to pay us about what it would cost to keep them in the almshouses."

The whole thing came like a clap of thunder from a clear sky, and out of this meeting at Somerset twenty years ago grew the Eastern and Western branches of the Children's Aid Society of Pennsylvania. An act was finally passed in 1883 prohibiting the detention of children in almshouses, over two years of age. Now what impresses me is that twenty years ago, in this house, something came to this Association that put it on a firm foundation, and out of that grew this wonderful work carried on by the ladies in the State. We had struggled along, and here at Somerset came to us a sort of inspiration that has never left us. Since that meeting we have had these good women coming among us as members of the Association. There comes back to me a wonderful sort of historical retrospect of what came to us twenty years ago at Somerset, and I hope that something will come to us at this meeting, similar to what came to us twenty years ago, giving us greater inspiration and a greater feeling of responsibility. Let us feel that we have a work for all this class that we have to look after, and see to it that when we go home from here our work is better and broader, so that when we come together again a year from now we will all come with renewed courage and inspiration. [Applause.]

Hon. E. P. Gould, of Erie, President of the Association, here addressed the Convention as follows:

Officers and Members of the Association of the Directors of the Poor and Charities of the State of Pennsylvania.

Ladies and Gentlemen—Long-established usage, as well as the program prepared for this Convention, imposes upon your presiding officer the duty of initiating the regular order of business by making an address in which he is expected to refer to some of the more important topics which will engage your attention; and I will not depart from the usual custom.

In the first place, I wish to express my most sincere thanks for the high honor conferred upon me. When we consider the great good that has been accomplished by this Association in the past, and the improvements that have resulted in the care of the dependent classes through its influence, and the constantly-increasing influence of our organization, one cannot but feel highly honored to be chosen to preside over its deliberations.

It is fourteen years since I first attended a convention of this Association; and in looking over the list of delegates present to-day, it will be seen that there are not more than a dozen in this Convention who were members when I joined the Association. If some method could be devised to continue in office Directors and other poor-law officers who have shown themselves interested in their work, and who are specially qualified for the positions they hold, these conventions would be greatly increased in interest, and result in far greater good accomplished; and the influence of our Association would be increased many fold. Under the system which prevails in many counties of the State the practice of rotating out of office, after a term or two of service, officials, however valuable their services may have been, and new and inexperienced men chosen to fill their places, results, as is evident to every one, in retarding the rapid perfection of poor-law management, and tends to make our conventions more like primary schools to teach the elementary truths relating to the support, care, and management of the dependent classes; when in fact our whole time should be devoted to devising new and more advanced methods of assisting and supporting the poor of all classes, the prevention of pauperism, and the care and treatment of the public wards of every kind.

A careful consideration of this subject has convinced me that great good would ensue if Directors of the Poor were appointed by the courts of the respective counties, as is the case now in a few districts, instead of being elected by the political party which predominates in each county. It is a lamentable fact that the selection of a candidate for

Director of the Poor is often determined, not by the fitness of the person nominated, but almost wholly upon the sole issue as to whether or not he will, if elected, vote for a certain person for steward or clerk, or reinstate some employee who has been removed. It will be a step in the right direction when some method prevails which will result in keeping in office for longer terms public-spirited men who have shown peculiar fitness for the positions they hold and are interested in their work, independent of the salaries they receive. It is perhaps too much to hope for that a rapid movement will be made in the qualifications of Directors elected, and the lengthening of the terms of office of those who have their hearts enlisted in their work. But these suggestions are made, hoping that in time good will result, and also to show why our Association does not accomplish more in bringing to completion the reforms and improvements for which it has been so long striving.

We welcome with us the noble representatives of the Children's Aid Societies, which are doing so grand a work. Without the help of these large-hearted, self-sacrificing women the Directors and Overseers of the Poor would be unable to properly care for the poor little waifs that become a public charge. But they should not be loaded with burdens too heavy for them to bear. Their work is largely one of love, and in caring for the unfortunate little ones these ladies should have the hearty co-operation and assistance of the poor-law officers.

There are two classes of children who are thrown upon the public for support and training, namely, the dependent and delinquent. The dependent is a child who is deprived of necessary care. This may result from the death of one or both parents, abandonment, or the depravity or criminality of the parents. The delinquent is a child who in some manner violates the laws or ordinances of the State, city, or borough. Most of these offenses are not in the nature of crimes, but are simply the result of the physical exuberance of a child, by its environment deprived of a healthy and natural outlet, which those in better circumstances are able to furnish their children. Many of the latter, even under the best of training, offend in the same way, but are protected from punishment by the influence of their parents. For instance, the jumping on and off of trains and street cars is an offense, yet almost every boy does it. Truancy is not a crime, but a disobedience of law, which, if not checked, often leads to crime, though in some instances it is an evidence, not of lawlessness, but of the better instincts of the child rebelling against the vicious and squalid surroundings of its home. Theft is about the worst class of these juvenile offenses which are classified under the head of delinquency, and when committed by a child, he should under the law be treated as a juvenile offender, and not as a criminal. Our State, by an act passed by the last Legislature, has taken the initial step in the right direction, in this matter by establishing "juvenile courts" for the trial of delinquent children. Some of the other States are far in advance of Pennsylvania in this respect, and Illinois seems to be taking the lead.

One of the most important subjects that will engage your attention will be to determine the best system of supporting the chronic insane. Long ago this Commonwealth, by various acts of the Legislature, assumed, and rightly, too, that these unfortunates, as well as all dependent insane, were the wards of the State. Until within a few years past they were all, from most of the counties, sent to the State insane asylums; and as these institutions became overcrowded, new hospitals were, at enormous expense, erected by the State to relieve those that were overfull. It became evident that this method would not solve the difficulty. Every new hospital was at once filled to its utmost capacity by the overflow from the other institutions, and an immediate demand was made for another State asylum. But this was not the most troublesome question to solve. It is a fact of which we may well feel proud that the physicians in charge of our State hospitals stand at the head of their profession and rank as the equals of the best alienists in this country or Europe. Yet they are powerless to accomplish the good they might do in treating the mental disorders of the inmates of their respective institutions, for two reasons: First, because in all but one of the State insane hospitals the head physician is the Superintendent, and a large part of his time is given, of necessity, to its business management, and but little of his attention can be devoted to the treatment of the patients. This is, in my opinion, all wrong. A good business manager

can readily be obtained in almost any community, but it is not so easy to find an available physician who is an expert in treating the diseases of the mind. And second, a very large percentage of the inmates of all the State insane hospitals are hopelessly chronic insane, or else are either idiotic or senile. Ordinary care for their health or bodily comfort is all they require, as nothing can be done to improve their minds or intellects. These so fill up the State institutions that there is no room to give the recent and hopeful patients the attention, separation, and treatment which their cases require.

To remedy these evils, a new departure has been made. In 1897, through the influence of the Board of Public Charities and this Association, after a careful and most thorough investigation of the subject, the Legislature initiated a radical departure from the prevailing system by passing the bill which is generally known as the "County Care Act" for the care and support of the insane. Many of the counties in the State have already taken advantage of the provisions of that act by providing local hospitals in which the insane of their respective counties are now kept and maintained, and other counties are considering the advisability of erecting modern and well-equipped buildings for the insane. That this system is more economic is undisputed, and it is also evident that the manner in which the insane are treated and cared for in local institutions is more closely inspected where they can be frequently visited by their relatives and friends than is done in the far-away State institutions.

The only opposition to the "County Care Act" that has yet developed comes from the officers of some of the State insane asylums, who allege that this method is a step backward, and they are still urging the building of more State hospitals for the insane to relieve the overcrowded ones we now have. The system of supporting the insane in local institutions is not an experiment, as is alleged by its opponents, for it has prevailed in Wisconsin for many years with marked success. I hope this Association will place itself on record as strongly in favor of the "County Care Act." One modification, however, I would recommend, and that is that none but the chronic insane, the idiotic, and those who are parietic or afflicted with some form of dementia—all of whom under our laws are classed as insane—should be kept in the local institutions. This would require that all recent and hopeful cases should be sent to the State institutions, where they could have the benefit of the services of the celebrated alienists who have charge of those hospitals. This restriction probably should not apply to the large counties, such as Philadelphia and Allegheny, for the reason that the number of insane in those counties will warrant the employment of the very best talent to treat their insane. As this whole subject will, I trust, be ably discussed and fully explained before this Convention, I leave its further consideration to you.

The criminal insane should no longer be kept in the State insane asylums. These hospitals are in no sense penal institutions, and are not equipped for the custody of such patients. This Association has heretofore recommended the erection by the State of a separate building for their retention, and the recommendation should be repeated until the State institutions are relieved of that class of insane.

The oft-recurring and never-settled question of how best to curb the extravagantly, wasteful, and almost, criminal expenditure of the public funds in dealing with the outdoor poor by the Directors and Overseers of the Poor will probably claim your attention. This subject has been considered so many times that it is difficult to throw any new light upon it, yet the evil is so great that it will, so long as it exists, demand a solution. Without entering upon a discussion of the various remedies that have been proposed, I would suggest for your consideration the idea of having the various poor districts report to the conventions of our Association or to the Board of Public Charities the amount of money expended in their respective districts during the previous year in helping the outdoor poor, with a per capita expenditure according to the population, and have the same published. This will show where there is great extravagance, and it is safe to say that those who pay the taxes will soon cure the evil.



No State in the Union is more liberal in its public charities than Pennsylvania, and no worthy object appeals to our Legislature in vain so long as there are public funds to appropriate. And I wish to call your attention to two classes of unfortunates that should have the help of the State in their behalf, namely: Epileptics and consumptives. So far no remedies have been discovered for the restoration of those who become afflicted with either of these maladies. In my opinion the State should take the initial steps and bear the cost of discovering, if possible, the causes of and remedies for these diseases. No necessary expense should be spared to accomplish this end so long as there is any hope of success. The expense is far too great for private effort, but if successful will be of so great a benefit to the afflicted ones, to the State, and to the whole world, that no outlay of money should be considered too great to compass it. Reliable mortuary reports show that very many more deaths result from tuberculosis than from any other single cause, and the demands upon the poor funds to relieve the necessities of those who are attacked by this disease, and those dependent upon them, is far greater, it is claimed, than from any other single cause. Should we not then urge upon the State to take early and advanced steps toward reaching these desired ends?

In conclusion I wish to say that the generous and warm-hearted welcome given us by the intelligent, cultured, and progressive people of this community, as well as the exhilarating air we breathe here, the pure water we drink, and the presence and encouragement of so many of the broad-minded and public-spirited citizens of this town and county, should inspire us all to strive to make this the red-letter Convention of our Association. Then, too, we should remember that this is the home of our highly-esteemed Corresponding Secretary, whose unselfish and untiring labors have in the past contributed so largely toward making our Conventions useful, entertaining, and instructive, and we should, on his account, determine to make this the most successful meeting of the Association.

The address was received with applause.

The enrollment of delegates was here proceeded with.

The following-named delegates, counties, institutions, and societies were present and represented:

ALLEGHENY COUNTY—Allegheny County Home—H. W. Ochse, F. T. Redman, J. Lewis Srodes, M. D., S. W. Lea.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY—Allegheny Department of Charities—William P. Hunker.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY—Pittsburg Department of Charities—Robert D. McGonnigle.

BEDFORD COUNTY—M. L. Sams, Samuel Shaffer, W. W. Cessna; J. D. Tewell, Steward; Mrs. J. D. Tewell, Matron; B. F. Madore, Attorney; Mrs. M. L. Sams, Mrs. Samuel Shaffer, Mrs. B. F. Madore.

BLAIR COUNTY—P. H. Breidenbaugh.

CAMBRIA COUNTY—Thomas L. Jones, Philip Hartzog, William D. Miller, Thomas J. Hughes, Steward.

CARBON COUNTY—Middle Coal Field District—W. S. Leib, Frank White, W. S. Campbell.

CHESTER COUNTY—John L. Smith.

DELAWARE COUNTY—Frank E. Sharpless, Newton P. West; James W. Baker, Steward; Sarah A. Baker, Matron.

ERIE COUNTY—John H. Osborn, Noah Waidley, Clark McAllister, William M. Brown, I. Frank Love, E. P. Gould.

FAYETTE COUNTY—Thomas Ryan, Henry Wiggins; Mrs. S. D. Newcomer, Matron.

FRANKLIN COUNTY—George F. Summers. S. M. Shillito.

GREENE COUNTY—H. M. Spragg, F. M. Patterson.

HUNTINGDON COUNTY—J. H. Madden, C. K. Horton, Robert Mason; J. S. Oppley, Steward; Mrs. J. S. Oppley, Matron.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY—Blakely Poorhouse—Thomas Grier, V. J. Lynch, E. S. Jones.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY—Carbondale City—John McCabe, Morgan Thomas, John T. Lynch, James F. Burke, Robert McMillan.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY—Hillside Farm (Scranton)—Frederick Fuller, F. J. Dickert, Samuel Williams, C. J. Gillespie, Dr. William M. Lynch.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY—Ransom—Dr. J. S. Portens, Dr. George B. Seamans, Louis Seibel, John H. Mullin, Michael Cummins.

LANCASTER COUNTY—H. Graybill, J. S. Strine, J. H. Weaver, Fred Shoff, Clayton Nissley, J. K. Frantz, William Good, Reo S. Kauffman.

LEBANON COUNTY—Gideon Rupp, E. E. Kehler, John L. Kline, John H. Light, Dr. A. J. Riegel; G. W. Nitraner, Attorney; John C. Borgner.

LUZERNE COUNTY—Central Poor District—S. W. Davenport, C. A. Westfield, J. H. Oplinger; D. A. Mackin, Steward; D. L. O'Neil, Attorney.

LYCOMING COUNTY—Williamsport—E. E. Ohl, Mrs. E. E. Ohl.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY—John R. Kindig, John H. McDowell, James K. Thomson; J. F. Voorhees, Steward.

SOMERSET COUNTY—William J. Glessner, Samuel J. Bowser, George H. Smith, J. B. Mosholder; L. C. Colborn, Attorney; J. C. Deitz, Steward; Mrs. G. Smith; Mrs. Amanda Deitz, Matron; Dr. P. F. Shaffer, Bessie Kerr, D. H. Leeper, Henry F. Knepper, Hon. F. J. Kooser, Hon. W. H. Koontz, M. Shoemaker, Mrs. M. Shoemaker, E. E. Cook, C. M. Gebhart, Adam S. Miller, J. C. Miller.

WASHINGTON COUNTY—W. A. Gabby, J. L. Rockey, J. A. Emery; John Wilson, Superintendent of County Home; Mrs. S. A. Wilson, Matron; Capt. W. K. Lyle, Superintendent of Children's Home; Mrs. J. A. Lyle, Matron of Children's Home.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY—E. E. Allshouse, Attorney; J. Q. Truxal.

YORK COUNTY—James Anderson, M. D. Porman, William Anthony, H. M. Rebert.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND—Prof. H. B. Jacobs.

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES—Cadwalader Biddle, Secretary.

STATE INSTITUTION FOR FEEBLE-MINDED OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA—Dr. J. M. Murdock, Superintendent.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA—Mrs. Parker Blood, Jefferson County; Mrs. E. S. Lindsay, Warren County; Mrs. Hugh L. Rankin, Fayette County; Mrs. P. A. Johns, Fayette County.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF INDIANA COUNTY—Mrs. Sue Willard.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF CHESTER COUNTY—Mrs. L. B. Walton, Mrs. M. A. Speakman.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF SOMERSET COUNTY—Mrs. F. J. Kooser, Mrs. F. W. Biesecker, Mrs. J. G. Ogle, Mrs. H. M. Berkley,



Mrs. J. A. Lambert, Mrs. L. C. Colborn, Mrs. George R. Scull, Mrs. Elias Cunningham, Mrs. May Biesecker, Miss Martha Knable, Miss Margaret Kimmel, Miss Mary Baer, Mrs. J. M. Keffer, Mrs. W. J. Glessner; L. C. Colborn. Solicitor.

Upon motion of Mr. McGonnigle, the papers that were to have been read at the morning's session by Mrs. Rankin and Mr. Smith were laid over until the afternoon session.

L. C. Colborn moves that the President appoint the usual committees. The motion is agreed to.

The Convention here adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 1:30 p. m. by President Gould. John L. Smith, of Chester, read the following paper:

### The Work of Our Association.

Mr. President Ladies, and Gentlemen.

I feel that your Committee on Program has erred in selecting me to prepare a paper on "The Work of Our Association," when we have with us the "Father of the Association" and others who have been with it since its birth, and who are so much more familiar with the grand work it has accomplished than I am. I feel that I must here beg pardon of those, then, who have been so long associated with this grand work and who are so well acquainted with all its details, for much that I shall say here that will doubtless sound very familiar to them, but that, nevertheless, seems necessary for me to say for the benefit of those who have but recently joined with us in this work and who, I trust, will long continue in it, not alone for the good that they may accomplish, but for the good it will be to them, for in no work do we grow more than in the work of uplifting and caring for God's poor, weak, unfortunate creatures. Allow me, first to give you a brief history of our Association. The first meeting was brought about through the efforts of a young man interested in the charitable work of our State, and who early realized the need of organized effort in this work, and who still lives to see the rich fruitage of his early effort. I refer to our mutual friend, Robert D. McGonnigle.

In this work of assisting in the care of the poor and dependent classes of the rushing business City of Pittsburg he became profoundly convinced of the need of such an Association, and through his efforts the first meeting was held in Altoona January 19, 1876. A few consecrated men, convinced of the need of unity of action in charitable work, attended this meeting and arranged for a second one. This was held in the City of Lancaster on September 19, 1876. This meeting served to confirm those interested in the opinion that the need of organized effort along charitable lines of work was imperative. Since that time this Association has held regular annual meetings in September or October of each year at different places throughout this grand old Commonwealth.

The new organization soon called to mind one fact that God, in His infinite wisdom, said: "It is not good for man to be alone;" and they therefore invited the good women to join in this great and good work. And since then much progress has been made. The attendance has increased and the interest has deepened and much good has been accomplished.

Permit me here to enumerate some of the things that have been brought to pass by this Association very early in our history through the influence of this Association. The Tramp Act of 1876 was passed. We all know and appreciate the great good that has been accomplished by this law, yet we still have the tramp with us. We need yet more

stringent laws, bearing upon the tramp question. I would advocate the passage of a law making it a misdemeanor for a town or township Constable to fail to arrest a tramp whenever and wherever seen within the limits of his jurisdiction; and a law that will confine the tramp in a workhouse or reformatory, where he will be made to work and contribute something toward his own support, and detain him there till he is willing to work for his daily bread.

I feel that the Act of 1883, making it unlawful to detain children in our almshouses after they are two years of age, was a great advance step, as was also the forming of the Children's Aid Societies throughout our State, whose work it is to care for these unfortunate little ones by getting good women to place these children in good families that they may there grow up under such wholesome influences and surroundings as make of them in most cases good men and women.

When these children were kept, as formerly, amid the influences of the almshouses, surrounded by and growing up in this influence, they could hardly fail to grow up to be paupers. God forbid that this method of dealing with these little ones may ever prevail again. I am a strong believer in the careful and proper early training of children, and this method had no redeeming features in it to commend it to the favor of any thoughtful person who had the welfare of these little ones at heart.

Let me say to all present, and particularly to the Directors of the Poor, you cannot do better than to aid and encourage the good women in the great and good work they are doing. My friends, let us not cease in our efforts until we have a strong, active, working Children's Aid Society in every county of this great Commonwealth. The proper training of the children is of vast importance to future generations. Let us not overlook this great work, then, bearing in mind that it can only be well done by the mothers of our land.

Through the influence of this Association an act has been passed making it unlawful to remove an insane female patient without a female attendant.

We have, also, brought about a reduction in the cost of maintaining our insane in our State institutions from about \$4 a week to \$1.75. This is certainly a great saving to the different counties of the State. This item alone would pay the entire expense of this Association many times over.

Another great advance was the organization of the State Lunacy Association, through whose work the poor, mentally sick creatures have been loosed from their cold, uncomfortable quarters—yes, from their chains of iron, from cruelty, and from abuse, and taken to the State and county institutions throughout our grand old State, where they are comfortably housed and kindly treated, and where they receive the best treatment that medical skill and humane care can give them.

I believe county care of the insane by our larger counties is a step forward, and that better care of this unfortunate portion of our population will result therefrom.

We have, also, working with us to-day, the Society for the Organization of Charities; also the Board of Public Charities. I believe both of these to be the outgrowth of this Association. That great good has been done, and will yet be done by the great-hearted people composing the membership of these associations cannot be doubted.

I would pause here to commend to you and to philanthropists everywhere the great advantage of thorough organization in the distribution of charity. By this means the unworthy and the impostor who everywhere abounds can be ferreted out and the really deserving given the kind of help they need.

Among the various institutions that this Association has been instrumental in bringing into existence may be mentioned the Hospital for the Chronic Insane, at Wernersville; the Western Pennsylvania Institute for Feeble-minded Children, at Polk. The Pennsylvania Soldiers' Orphan Industrial School, at Scotland, Pa., is another institution I would most heartily commend to you. I cannot but express the hope that this kind of work may be pushed forward till not only these children, but all dependent children, for whom good homes cannot be found in private families, may be given the shelter, the care, and the advantages that these schools afford now only to the children of our destitute soldiers.

I believe it was through the influence of this Association that the

Hospital for Epileptics near West Chester, Pa., was built. God grant that greater provisions may soon be made for this most unfortunate class of our fellow-beings. The school where deaf mutes are taught to talk is a child born of this Association.

If you will permit me to continue to enumerate the various accomplishments that have been the outgrowth of this Association I will yet name the act of May 4, 1893, an act to further regulate the admission of inmates to the home established for disabled and indigent soldiers. By this act many of our almshouses are relieved of those who went forth at their country's call, bearing their lives in their hands, willing to die, if needs be, that our Union might live. These deserve the very best that our Nation and State can give them.

Then again the act of May 26, 1893, is the direct outgrowth of the influence and power of this Association. It regulates the fees charged for the adoption of minors and the entering of the order of Court thereon. This will benefit the Children's Aid Societies in their work, protecting them from excessive charges by both attorneys and officials. Another act, approved June 2 and 6, 1893, provides for appropriation for the Children's work. This enables those identified with this work to carry it forward to greater and grander accomplishments, and thus show to the people of this grand old Commonwealth the high appreciation in which this work is held.

Oh, brothers and sisters, I believe God looks down approvingly upon this humane work. Let us not grow weary in it, but press forward and upward to still greater and better results.

I have told you of much that has been accomplished, but let me remind you that there still remains much to be done. We still have with us the widow, the orphan, the blind, the lame, and the epileptic; we still have before us much to be done that seems to me imperative at this time. Let us press on until we have, somewhere in the center of our State, a home for feeble-minded children. The need of greater accommodations for this class must be apparent to all. Also a hospital for epileptics. I look upon the detention of these in our almshouses and hospitals for the insane as almost criminal. To furnish speedy relief to these is an imperative duty. Our State owes it to this exceedingly unfortunate class of our population. I would urge upon our Legislative Committee the importance of urging this need upon our next Legislature. Can we bring about this aid here, so much needed? If so, we will look upon this as one of the Association's brightest crowns.

I cannot close without again pressing upon you the need of more stringent legislation on the tramp question. The tramp is still with us. Let us be active and vigilant until he is an unknown quantity.

Another class that are deserving of our earnest and sympathetic thought is the poor feeble-minded girls who need a shelter and a fold to them, as yet, unknown. Cannot you, ladies and gentlemen, devise some means to protect and care for these deserving ones? A home suggests itself where they could, by suitable employment, contribute at least something toward their support; or the passage of a law that will provide for their being taken into custody and confined when their inability to care for themselves has once been demonstrated. We had them with us as mothers once, twice, yes, thrice, at twenty years of age, thus reproducing their kind, or, if possible, their inferiors, in a new generation. Can we reasonably hope for fewer paupers and less crime while this class is unprotected and at large, or can we have a law passed that will bring medical science to our aid in dealing with these poor creatures while at large, who, notwithstanding their weaknesses and frailties, bear yet the image of their Creator?

I would urge upon you, also, ladies and gentlemen, the need of providing means so that our Association may meet in counties where the benefits of organized charities are yet unknown, and where they are still under the township system of caring for their poor, where the value of the work done by the Children's Aid Society is yet unknown, and where the advantages and benefits of organized charity have not yet been learned. A small appropriation like that now granted to farmers' institutes throughout our State would enable us to reach every part of this great State and carry with us the light of organized work. In closing allow me to recommend to this Association the importance of using our best efforts in the work of selecting Directors of the Poor. Let



us aim to get into the work our very best men—men with great sympathetic hearts—and when the right men have been found and elected to office, let us retain them in office indefinitely, for their usefulness will grow as they grow in experience.

The paper was received with the applause of the Convention.

President GOULD: This paper has made some valuable suggestions, and it is very proper that it should be discussed. I now give you the opportunity to discuss it, if you desire.

Mr. McGONNIGLE: When I look back and see the condition of affairs in the care of the almshouses, and of the poor and dependent classes as they existed before our first meeting and their condition now I wonder how we got along so many years without this organization. In my early days of almshouse administration we had no acquaintanceship throughout the State. I didn't know any one belonging to Erie, or Crawford, or Lancaster counties; we were entire strangers to one another. And as the result was that litigation arose in regard to the care of paupers, etc., and the whole State was in a turmoil. Now we feel that we know the people of Lancaster, and of Erie, and of Montgomery, and Huntingdon, and of all portions of the State, and when matters arise that require settlement between districts you have a personal acquaintance there. That in itself, to me, is evidence that this Association was needed.

And then in getting together and comparing ideas it is remarkable what amount of work we have done. It has been said to me sometimes, "You don't seem to do much," but you must remember that meetings of this kind cannot go by any fixed rule. Everything the Association undertakes has to be taken up and considered and talked about, and voted down and voted up again, and after a while something comes out of it.

The Children's law, for instance, was voted up and down and up and down for a number of years. It astonishes me what an amount of ground we have covered, in a quiet and modest way. And so as these meetings go on from year to year it is a pleasure to me to know that the work seems to be getting better in hand. We should have every county in the State join with us annually at these meetings. Two or three counties in the State in the last two or three years have adopted the county almshouse system and we should get them to meet with us. I am satisfied if they attend one meeting they will continue to come.

This is the second Association of the kind ever formed in the United States. The first was in New York State, about two years before our first meeting in Altoona. Now nearly every State in the Union has them. California had their meeting only a month ago. They have followed our lines, and the New York lines, to a certain extent.

Then we have the annual Conference of Charities; so we are a sort of beginning, from which the Conference of Charities and Corrections of the United States has grown.

I haven't anything special to bring before you except to say that there is one thing we should do, and we can do it, and that is to insist upon the State establishing an asylum or colony for the care of epileptics, following the plan of the Craig Colony in New York. That is modeled after the great colony at Bielfeld, Germany.

You all know the great need of this preparation for the care of epileptics. They are in the almshouses and in the insane hospitals and in the workhouses and the penitentiaries, and there doesn't seem to be any place for them to go. They are moral outcasts, and their troubles

are aggravated and they become worse and worse, and bring sorrow and confusion to their friends and families and expense to the State as well, and the State owes it to itself, as well as to its dependent classes, that there should be a colony established as soon as possible for this purpose. It is no experimental plan. The system is working out in several States. Illinois is going to establish such a colony. Pennsylvania has been very backward in this regard, and let me in this closing thought try to impress it on your minds that that is the thing that this State now needs—a colony for epileptics—and if the matter is taken in hand and properly indorsed and presented to the Legislature, there should be no more difficulty in the matter than there was in the organization of the institution now at Polk. You know how we talked that over for years and how difficult it seems to accomplish anything, but by that constant effort the act was finally passed and we have the institution at Polk.

I do hope the Committee on Legislation will take this matter into consideration and see if something cannot be done at this coming session of the Legislature. [Applause.]

Mrs. H. L. Rankin, of Fayette, here read the following paper:

### Home Versus Institutional Life for Children.

On my arrival home after having spent the summer West I was surprised to receive a letter from the Program Committee notifying me that my name had been placed on the program and this topic given me to write about. I had not expected to attend the Convention, and did not think I had the time to give to a paper, but realizing what a task our committees undertake arranging and getting up these Conventions, I decided, at the last moment, to do what little I could in such a short time.

Children having been placed in families to board, where they are as one of the family, are taught to take an interest in all the house affairs, as well as the other children in our boarding homes. They are taught to call the woman in charge "mother" and look upon her as such. She not only teaches them to eat properly, but also to take care of their clothing, and the older ones to assist in caring for the little ones. We are often surprised, in visiting these homes, to find how attached the little ones are to each other.

Now, I have been referring to boarding homes that are under the care of our society. Our object is always to get them into a permanent family home where they will be raised as a child of the family. We seldom have a child committed to us that can be placed in a good home without some training and care. Before placing them we find that sending a girl to our Industrial School at Indiana will enable us to put her in a better home than we could have done. We never place our children when they are first committed to us, for we are not able to recommend them. After being with us a short time, we then know what kind of a home would be suitable for the child, and look for the family that we would consider best able to do and take an interest in the child.

Our little ones we try to get in a home for adoption, and have been quite successful in the past year. I think more efforts should be made by institutions and our own societies; in fact, by all homes or societies, to have the children legally adopted in good homes as soon as possible after the child comes under their care, especially babies and small children. The homes and people should be well investigated, and we know if it is a suitable home before giving up the control of the child. Our older children we hesitate over having adopted, as people seldom wish these older children except for the work they are able to do for their board and clothes, but often desire to adopt them so as to get the entire control.

Every year brings us new experiences in finding homes suitable for the children. Therefore, we must have patience and not get discouraged, as there are now so many working for the good of these children that come under our different societies.

One of the brightest pages in the annals of our race, is that which is connected with the love of home. Home is the sacred spot, where the heart has garnered up its choicest earthly treasure; where character is chiefly formed; where natural affections are cherished and fostered; where mind begins to expand; where those habits are formed that assures to industry as its appropriate rewards. May we cherish them in ourselves and foster them in the children. How many hallowed associations come thronging upon the mind as we look back to our own childhood's home?

Our own poet, whose remains lay for years in an obscure place in England, but now lie resting at the Nation's capital at Washington, has said "Home, sweet home; be it ever so humble, there is no place like home." Thus the world from the most remote ages has ever held sacred the home.

One of the saddest things that can ever befall any child is when the mother of the home closes her eyes in death, and she is laid away in her final resting place. Oftentimes the home is broken and the children scattered, and should the father be a dissolute person, frequently the children are sent to the poorhouse, placed among strangers, or placed in institutions. What a sad fate is before that child. We see every month cases of this kind and have seen the sad results.

This Association made for itself a name that will go down in history as one of the noblest deeds done for years, when, through its endeavor, it brought about the passage of the act of Assembly, prohibiting the keeping of children in almshouses for a greater period than sixty days, unless it be an "idiot or cripple." This was striking a blow to pauperism and relieved many a beautiful child from the stigma of "poorhouse." Indeed, a child should not be permitted to pass the threshold of a poorhouse as an inmate, if it can be avoided.

Children's Aid Societies throughout the counties of Pennsylvania are caring for thousands of children taken from poorhouses and from the slums of cities, cast off by profligate parents, or bereft of parents by death and cast upon the charities of people.

Before the enactment of the law prohibiting children being kept in the poorhouses, the charitable men and women of the State, moved by pity for these little ones, and seeing their sad condition and evil environments, appealed to the people, who donated funds to build institutions and open homes for the children in almshouses. But as there was no law by which the Directors of the Poor could divert the funds from keeping them at the poorhouse and pay for them at these institutions, they were not much of a relief to them, until our Legislature, filled with philanthropy, made some appropriations for the support of some in the State.

These institutions were a step toward rescuing many of the children from the snares and temptations of the world. They are beautiful in appearance, comfortably furnished, and cared for by earnest and devout women and men. And when children come to them who are vicious in their nature, have contracted evil habits, who need training, these institutions are the proper place for them. The danger in institutional life for children is that it teaches them to be dependent and have no care for themselves.

Just here I desire to say to the Directors of the Poor, your co-operation with the Children's Aid Society will relieve you very much from the care and responsibility of the children, and will be doing God's service and blessing upon the children. The Children's Aid stands ready to assist you in your arduous duties, and is willing to share your responsibilities in regard to the children.

The law passed at our last session of the Legislature, empowering the courts to appoint visitors, whose duty it is to visit all children within the county who are in care of those whose object is to care and look after poor, indigent, and delinquent children, at the expense of the county, is a wise measure. And these children will have the protection of this visiting committee, who will see that they will have the proper training, schooling, and comforts of the home.

Mrs. Rankin's paper was received with applause.

Mr. L. C. COLBORN: I want to say a word as to the last clause in Mrs. Rankin's paper, as to the law that was passed last winter em-



powering the courts to appoint visiting committees to visit poor, indigent, and delinquent children. Last winter the Children's Aid Society were appointed a committee to visit all such children in the county (Somerset), the expense being paid by the county.

Heretofore the Children's Aid Society have been handicapped in some counties for want of funds, but this law relieves them from that embarrassment, and provides them with means to visit the children that are placed out throughout the county. We all know that in some cases such children haven't good homes. The idea of some people is to get all the work possible out of the children. This ought not to be the object or purpose of persons taking children, but it is, in some instances. And the object of this law is that this visiting committee shall visit these children and see that they have proper schooling and care. It is a very wise law, and I hope every Board of Directors and every Children's Aid Society will take advantage of it and go into their courts and have a visiting committee appointed, either of the Children's Aid or the Directors of the Poor.

Mrs. BLOOD (Brookville): Where can we get copies of the bill?

President GOULD: In any lawyer's office. It is in what is called "The Delinquent Court bill."

President Gould here announced the Auditing Committee, as follows: John Wilson, Washington; Dr. J. M. Murdock, Polk; William M. Brown, Erie.

President GOULD: I want to say to the Committee on Resolutions, which I am about to appoint, that they are to submit to the Convention such resolutions as they think ought to be adopted, and I hope they will carefully consider their work. I name as that committee the following: B. F. Madore, Bedford; John T. Lynch, Lackawanna; D. L. O'Neil, Luzerne; John H. McDowell, Montgomery; Mrs. Parker Blood, Jefferson; C. K. Horton, Huntingdon; Henry Wiggins, Fayette; Mrs. May Biesecker, Somerset. It has been suggested that we should change the offices of the Association in some respects by combining the offices of Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. As the Corresponding Secretary has to do most of the work, it is easier for him to do it all than to act with a separate Treasurer, and if this meets with the favor of the Convention it should be adopted.

Mr. McGONNIGLE: I have been familiar with the work of the Corresponding Secretary and also with the Treasurership of the Association for twenty years, and it always occurred to me that the Secretary should also be Treasurer. He is familiar with the persons all over the State and he has certain bills to contract, and if he is not the Treasurer he has to hunt up the Treasurer and explain to him, and has to do all the work for the Treasurer. He even collects the money, very largely, and turns it over to the Treasurer, and then has to go to the Treasurer for it again. I think the better way would be to have the Corresponding Secretary act as Treasurer, too.

Mr. McGonnigle moves that the Corresponding Secretary be also elected Treasurer.

The motion is seconded by Mrs. Rankin, of Fayette, and agreed to.

President Gould announced the Committee on Officers, as follows: Mr. McGonnigle; Mrs. Ogle, of Somerset; Mr. J. S. Strine, of Lancaster, Mr. George F. Summers, of Franklin, and Mr. Barker, of Delaware.

Committee on Place of Next Meeting: Mr. Fred Fuller, of Scranton,

Mr. Nicely, of Lancaster; Mr. Westfield, of Luzerne; Mr. Smith, of Somerset; Mr. Ahl, of Williamsport, and Mr. Hartzog, of Cambria.

Legislative Committee: S. W. Davenport, Luzerne; R. D. McGonnigle, Allegheny; J. W. Barker, Delaware; Frederick Fuller, Lackawanna; P. H. Bridenbaugh, Blair; L. C. Colborn, Somerset.

Committee on Program: Mr. Frederick Fuller, Lackawanna; Mr. P. H. Bridenbaugh, Blair; Mrs. M. O. Kooser, Somerset; Mr. J. L. Smith, Chester; Mr. Clayton L. Nissley, Lancaster; Mr. M. D. Porman, York.

Mr. L. C. Colborn here announced a reception to the delegates at the Somerset House, tendered by the Directors of the Poor of Somerset County and the Children's Aid Society, from 9 until 11 o'clock this evening; also announced the illustrated lecture to-morrow evening in the opera house by Mr. McGonnigle on the subject, "When I Went West," and urged all the delegates to attend upon both these occasions.

The reports from the several districts were here called for.

Mr. Fred Fuller read the report from the Scranton Poor District.

Mr. William Brown read the report of the Erie County Almshouse.

Mr. BROWN: We are building a boiler house this year, with a view of adding an insane asylum to our institution within two or three years. As we have our reports published from year to year, I don't think it necessary to make an extended report.

The paper prepared by Mr. E. E. Long, of Montgomery County, entitled, "The Old Versus the New in Charitable Institutions," was read to the Convention by Mr. Thompson, who stated that he read the paper on account of Mr. Long's inability to attend, because of poor health.

The paper was as follows, and was received with applause:

### The Old Versus The New in Charitable Institutions.

Mr. President and Members of the Association of the Directors of the Poor and Charities of Pennsylvania.

This subject was assigned to me by your committee, and when I found that my health would hardly permit my getting to your beautiful mountain resort, I received the program with my name to the topic in cold print, and it was too late to decline.

Being unable to be present in person, I must beg your indulgence for committing my thoughts to paper and requesting a kind friend to read them.

Within the recollection of the youngest member of this Convention, there have been many changes for the better in our charitable institutions. Some of the older persons can tell us how, forty or fifty years ago, the insane and paupers were all kept together in the almshouses promiscuously, except that those who were violently insane were separated from the rest and confined in separate buildings or rooms that were more like prisons than homes for poor unfortunates. Only recently a physician told me that an old practitioner, now deceased, whose duty it was years ago to visit various almshouses, said that the violent and criminal insane were generally kept in underground cells, or chained fast to rings imbedded in the stone walls, and that their food was literally thrown in to them like wild animals confined in cages. And, in private families, if a member should become insane, the poor unfortunate was often chained fast in a room and treated more like a wild beast than a human being. No medicine was given, nor effort made to restore reason, the only object seeming to be to keep them confined and from injuring other people, until death would give a welcome relief. And the inmates of almshouses that were in their right mind were notoriously ill treated, ill fed, and badly cared for, sometimes for personal gain, but generally because the taxpayers demanded the least possible expense in caring for paupers.

Changes have gradually taken place so that these conditions of inhuman treatment of the insane and poor have been remedied, at least to a very great extent. State hospitals for the insane have been

opened in different sections of the State, and the insane made wards of the State. Specialists in insanity have been placed in charge of these institutions and the most careful medical attention has been given to the inmates, and in many cases entire cures have been effected, while many others have been greatly benefited.

Employment and recreations have been provided for those who have sufficient intelligence, and the results have been satisfactory. Comfortable rooms and buildings containing all the modern conveniences and appliances for the best treatment are maintained at the public expense, and these unfortunates are generally given much better care than they could possibly have received under the old conditions.

Alms-houses have also joined in the march of improvement. Instead of the township or county poorhouse of the old days, we have the modern "County Home" for the poor of the present times. Modern buildings are the rule, with commodious grounds and plenty of farming land, so that useful, healthy employment can be given to those who are able to do a little work to relieve the monotony of their lives. Privileges are given for friends to visit them, and the thought of giving the poor unfortunates, no longer able to care for themselves, a home, is faithfully and humanely carried out.

Infirmaries and modernly-equipped hospitals are generally attached to the homes, and in sickness or in health, the best care is given by intelligent Stewards and assistants. Since the County Care act, making provisions for each county to care for its own insane, with State aid, has been in operation, a number of separate county hospitals for the insane have been built, and the same intelligent care is given to the insane of such counties, with the additional advantage of the inmates being near to their friends and relations.

In comparing the old versus the new in charitable institutions, can there be any doubt but that the advantage is all with the new? The modern idea is, when people are helpless and destitute, the public should provide for them humanely and comfortably, not grudgingly nor sparingly, but in the manner we would wish to be treated ourselves should misfortune overtake us. Such is the ideal. But there is danger in making these homes too alluring for those who will not make the proper effort to take care of themselves. The homes should be only a last resort for the indigent who are unable to care for themselves. The able-bodied, shiftless persons, without a place to go except the alms-house, may be taken in and cared for, but they must be given work and be compelled to do it well, so that they can be made self-dependent. Work can nearly always be found for those willing and able to do it, and such persons need not long be a public charge. Slight rewards should be given to those who try to do their work right, to encourage them to better efforts, and minor positions can be given to the best, and regular wages paid, making them employees and giving them the rights of citizenship. Not a few inmates of county homes have in this way been redeemed into useful citizens and have been able to start out into the world anew, perfectly able and willing to support themselves. This, however, is the most hopeful side. By far the greater number of inmates are there because completely broken down in health or worn out with old age, or decrepit through vicious habits. Little can be done with this class except to give them some light employment and see that they are comfortably clothed, fed, and cared for. If medical care or special attention is needed, they are put in the infirmary or hospital, where neat, quiet nurses rule, and generally female nurses, too. The old way was to have a male nurse with more or less experience (generally very little indeed), who, with pauper assistants, would look after the sick men, and a female nurse of about the same experience and with similar assistants to look after the sick women. Now, it is surprising to see in how many of the modern hospitals and infirmaries the chief in charge of both men and women is a woman, sometimes being a regular physician, and always at least a thoroughly trained nurse. They may have both male and female assistants, but the person at the head is a quiet, clean, attractive woman, who is bound to have everything under her care looking just as bright, clean, cheerful, and comfortable as she herself does. No man can quite come up to a woman in this particular.

Do you often hear of cruelty to inmates in institutions in which



women have a prominent part in the management? I believe in having a man for Steward or Superintendent and a male physician in general charge of a charitable institution, but the more scope we give to women in the management and care of the indigent people both in health or in sickness the more satisfactory will the general result be. Modern buildings, separate institutions for the insane, and the prominence of women as nurses and physicians are to my mind the greatest improvements of the "New Over the Old in Charitable Institutions."

Mrs. Walton (Chester) was asked by Mrs. Rankin to offer suggestions upon the paper just read, and responded by saying that she would prefer that Mr. Smith, of her county be called upon, and would refer the matter to him.

Mr. SMITH (Chester): It surely affords me pleasure to bear testimony to the good work of Dr. Baker. Professionally, I think she is the equal of the average man physician in the care of the insane. In details we will all admit that a woman will excel a man, and we are highly pleased with the selection of a woman as the resident physician of the almshouse and as Superintendent and physician of the insane. Her work is very satisfactory, and the friends of the institution unanimously commend it. Professionally her care of the insane has been so satisfactory and so successful that many have gone out on parole or discharge that had been in the institution for a number of years. I attribute that to the care that she has been able to give them and the attention she has given them. They have their flower garden, and the men take care of the trees, and the result has been that the patients have grown better right along; patients who have been for years in the State institution.

We attribute the success to the small number, where their identity has not become lost, as it does in the larger institutions. I think that is the disadvantage in the large institutions. I would suggest to any county that anticipates going into the care of their own insane, by all means select female physicians. [Applause.]

Dr. Murdock, of Polk, is called upon by President Gould.

Dr. MURDOCK: I am very glad to testify to the good work done by women in the institutions of the State, particularly in the line of mercy, and I attribute to this, largely, the improved care that is being received by the inmates of the State and county institutions.

A woman will give better care, for instance, to the clothing, the buttons will be kept on, and it will be kept cleaner. I can remember, in my short experience, when a woman nurse in the men's ward in a hospital for the insane was unknown in the State. It is within my time that it has been adopted in this country, but now it is quite common. They are doing a grand work. Their influence is good. There is none of that roughness or rowdiness that there formerly was. I think women should take a much more prominent position than they now do in caring for the insane, the men as well as the women.

Mr. BARKER: Do I understand Mr. Smith, of Chester, to say that he believed a woman could manage the business end of the concern better than a man? Do I understand that this woman (Dr. Baker) manages the business end of your institution.

Mr. SMITH: She does. The Steward supplies Dr. Baker with what she wants.

Mr. BARKER: Why not let Dr. Baker provide them herself?

Mr. SMITH: Everything comes from the one department. We have the icehouse and the cellar, etc., and it is less expense than to have two departments.

Mr. BARKER: Yet at the same time the Steward is the provider. Dr. Baker makes a requisition on the Steward, and yet you claim it is better to elect a woman? I don't think her work should be confounded with the Steward's work.

Mr. SMITH: We feel that it is not. We think it is distinctly separate.

Mr. BARKER: Why not dispense with the Steward?

Col. GOULD: I am glad of this discussion; I hope the members will think this out, and when we come to another convention be prepared to discuss it.

Mr. SMITH: Our Steward, of course, is a better farmer than Dr. Baker would be. Dr. Baker makes her requisitions upon Mr. Garrett, as he does upon the Directors. He looks after the farm. But I still insist that Dr. Baker's care of the insane is equal to that of any man. And she manages the entire business side of the hospital for the insane, as Mr. Garrett manages the business end of the almshouse. Of course both are subject to the Directors.

Mr. BARKER: That is just what I thought. Mr. Garrett manages the business end of it. I don't think Mr. Garrett could manage the end that Dr. Baker manages as well, and I am satisfied that it is one of the best institutions of the kind in the State.

Mr. SMITH: The cost of the maintenance of the insane has been \$2.60 per capita. That includes the State appropriation, but I think if we went into the details it might be increased a little over that.

Mr. BARKER: I find that the cost of maintenance in Lackawanna County is \$1.96 a week; Chester is about seventy-five cents higher per capita than any other county I know of.

D. A. Mackin (Luzerne): The average cost for paupers and insane is \$2 for insane and \$1.68 for paupers. We expect that the cost will be radically different between paupers and insane.

President GOULD: I would like all the counties that can, between this and the next meeting, to prepare a statement of the cost of the insane who are kept in their institutions, so they can be read.

Mr. W. W. Cessna, of Bedford, read the following paper:

### Defects in Modern Institutional Management.

There is no subject which covers such a large field as "Defects in Modern Institutional Management" and these defects arise from a variety of sources. They may come from the lack of knowledge on the part of the Directors; they may come from lax enforcement of the law, as well as the rules and regulations of the institution; they may arise from the mistakes and bad judgment of counsel; they may come from a lack of qualifications on the part of the Steward, or the defects may come from many other sources, too numerous to mention.

On account of the small salary attached to the office of Director of the Poor, the impression seems to prevail that it does not require a man of much ability or experience to fill it; but it is only when the Director enters upon the duties of his office that he discovers the many and varied obligations devolving upon him. The first charge laid at his door is extravagance in the use of public money, and at the very inception he must display his ability to manage financially. Directors of the Poor as a class are large-hearted men and are easily touched by an appeal for aid. They see only the poverty and want and fail to read between the lines that the applicant may be an imposter. It is true the work demanding the attention of the Director is not easily performed and often not appreciated, for not only is he criticised by the public, but many times abused by the applicant. This suggests to me that the granting of outdoor relief in a very large majority of cases is improper. Our county homes contain all the modern conveniences



and the true intent of the law seems to me to be that persons who are unable to support themselves should be committed instead of aided outside of the institution. My reason for saying that they should be committed is that Directors have no authority to expend more for outdoor relief per capita than is expended in the maintenance of paupers in the county home. When persons who are on the outdoor relief list become ill, they must receive medical attention and often as large a sum is expended in this way for one illness as it would cost to support the person for the entire year in the county home. Then, too, in my opinion, this method of relief does more toward creating dependent persons than does actual commitment make paupers. Directors should make themselves familiar with every phase of the applicant's condition, and before any relief is granted should require the applicant to answer whether or not he would be willing to go to the county home. Many persons receive aid in this way who would not think of going to the county home and whose relatives would not permit them to be committed. Thus the poor authorities would be relieved of a very considerable item of expense and the welfare of the citizens of the county would be enhanced.

In this time when politics is such an important factor in the management of institutions, Directors must often yield to what is their better judgment in the selection of the Steward in order to favor the party leaders and thus pay political debts. Or he may vote for a relative, for "blood is thicker than water," and not because he is the best qualified. The Director who allows such influences to dominate him, fails to faithfully perform the duties of his office.

Mr. SMITH (Chester): I agree with Mr. Lessna on the unwise distribution of outdoor relief. I don't feel that we do all things right in Chester County, but with a population of almost a hundred thousand we have granted less than \$200 outside relief the last year. I am sure that no one has suffered at that. I don't think we have added but very few to our almshouse population by that, if we have any. I think, however, that outdoor relief creates a pauper class; at least that they are more apt to come in in later years.

The only cases where we will grant outdoor relief is where there is a good, industrious man or woman with a family of children taken sick; we occasionally tide them over for a little time.

Mr. OSBORNE (Erie): We have a great deal of outdoor relief; for instance, where there is a wife left with a large family of children, we help them a little so they can keep their children. I would like to ask Mr. Smith what he does with this \$200. We have families left sometimes with six or eight children; we keep them together by a little help, and that keeps the children off from the county and to women from going to the poorhouse. We have tried different times to cut them down, but as we have no place for children between two and sixteen, I think this plan of outdoor relief is the best thing we can do.

Mr. MCGONNIGLE: Mr. Smith and Mr. Osborne represent agricultural communities and where the conditions are different from what they are in a mining or lumbering district, and what will apply there will not apply in some counties. In the manufacturing districts in Allegheny County there has to be a certain amount of outdoor relief granted, and you can't avoid it; and the same in the mining districts. I would like to hear from representatives from the mining districts.

FREDERICK FULLER (Scranton): The district I represent has about 125,000. Our outdoor relief averages something over \$16,000 a year. It is a question we have considered a great deal. Two years ago the question was raised whether we were authorized to grant outdoor relief, and it was taken into the court and it was decided that we were authorized to grant it under our charter.

The reason that it may appear large, over agricultural districts, is that a great many widows are made every year in our district from their husbands being killed in the mines, or shops, or disabled for life, and universally leaving from eight to ten children, and these must be cared for by us. We have no room for them in our institution, and we care for them in that way, the maximum relief per month being \$6—from \$3 to \$6 a month. We are satisfied from our experience that it is the best and only thing to do. We know no other way of tiding them over until their children are old enough to earn something. We see that the children are kept in school, and after they are old enough to work we withdraw the relief or reduce it until they are self-sustaining.

Mr. DAVENPORT (Luzerne): Representing one of the largest mining districts in the State, and the heart and center of the great anthracite coal strike, it may be well for me to make some remarks. The mining of coal, especially anthracite coal, is a very hazardous business. There is one human life lost for every day in the year in the mining of anthracite coal, leaving a large number of widows and children.

What can you do with a widow fifty years old and children from five to twelve years of age, several of them, unless you give them outdoor relief? Perhaps the oldest child can earn a little something—fifty or sixty cents a day. The widow cannot go out and do ordinary housework and become a servant because she has the children to look after. With this income of \$7 to \$8 a month how can she maintain her children without outdoor relief?

We have been paying in the neighborhood of \$13,000 a year; we have run as high as \$16,000.

I don't think the amount has been increased five per cent by the strike, indicating that the people we are maintaining are not the strikers or those who work in the mines, but are the poor widows and their families.

Mr. SHILLITO (Franklin County): We have quite an element that came in from the South, and we have to give them some support on this line. I want to ask the brother back of me (Mr. Smith) if they have no widows or orphans? What do you do with them?

Mr. SMITH: We still have them with us. There is occasionally a family where we think it wise to break them up and put the children in the care of our Aid Society, where they will be more properly raised than the mother would raise them, but where the widow is the right kind of a person we give them a little help.

Mr. SHILLITO: That county is very fortunate if they can get through with \$200. Do you pay these parties for taking care of the children?

Mr. SMITH: The Children's Aid Society finds free homes for the most of them. We pay their board until they can find a suitable home.

Mr. SHILLITO: That would be outdoor relief.

Mr. SMITH: I think we spend less than \$3,000 for the care of our children for the year.

Mr. SHILLITO: This is a subject we have discussed time and again in this Convention. I don't see how we can get along without some outside relief.

Mr. HUGHES (Cambria): We paid last year \$8,500 for outdoor relief. Our county is mostly composed of mining people; the minute they get sick they are after outdoor relief, and we find by tiding them over a

little it is cheaper than to take them to the almshouse. We have tried the scheme of cutting off outdoor relief, but it is impossible in our county. We have 105,000 in our county.

Mr. OBLINGER (Luzerne): I have attended these Conventions for eight years and have heard about nothing but charity. Some want to shut outdoor relief off, and one of our Directors wanted to advertise all the outdoor relief they gave. I don't see anything charitable about that. I gave out about \$3,000. I probably have thirty or forty women, with a lot of children.

Mr. MISSLEY (Lancaster): We cannot get along without paying outdoor relief. We don't let it grow any larger, and as they die off we put some poor people on.

Mr. James Moore, of Cambria, was called for.

Mr. MOORE: I have been out of this for about two years. But at the time I was in, for six years, when I took hold of it there were 200 families at Johnstown receiving outdoor relief. It had been run in one rut for forty years, and I found that there had been no investigation made for a long time by the overseers at my end of the county. I made it my business to visit all the families and find out what I could by them, and inquired of their neighbors. I found there were a great number receiving aid that were not entitled to it. But we had to give outside relief because we hadn't room in the county home. We made room there and enlarged the house, and when I would get an application where I thought the parties were imposing I would say: "Now we have plenty of room and will take you to the county home and keep you there until you can do better." And I would receive the answer: "No, I can get along myself; I never will go there." In that way I think there were sixty on the list when I left, but they were mostly widows with little children. Wasn't it better to pay them outdoor relief than to separate mothers and children? I had an idea for a long time that each county home ought to have a children's home on the farm, so, when there was a woman who had three or four little children and couldn't get along, they could be taken to that home and have a matron there to oversee them and a teacher to teach them. Then people would go there to get children. And taking children from there, there would be no stigma on the child that it was in the poorhouse. It would be a children's home; it would be in connection with the Children's Aid Society; an orphans' home by the Children's Aid Society is an excellent thing. I think there ought to be on each county home farm an orphans' home in connection with the poorhouse, but isolated from it. [Applause.]

A gentleman from Pittston: About the same condition prevails with us as has been stated as existing in Lackawanna and Luzerne. We pay out about \$5,000 a year for the widows and children and to a great many old people who cannot leave their own homes.

Mr. Cadwalader Biddle, of Philadelphia, came into the room at this time and was received with applause.

Mr. George F. Summers, of Franklin, who was to have read a paper at this time on "Spiritual Ministrations of Almshouses and Hospitals," not being present, Mr. Kauffman, of Lancaster, was called upon and said:

### Spiritual Ministrations of Almshouses and Hospitals.

This is rather sudden and very unexpected to me, yet I think this matter should not be overlooked. I do not have as much experience along the line of a moral instructor in the almshouses, hospitals, and



insane asylums as I would like to have. I have only been in this work about a year and six months, but I want to say, dear friends, that it is a work that lies very near my heart, and it is a work that in many cases I am afraid is neglected. While it is necessary for us to look to the temporal comforts and interests of the inmates of charitable institutions, I am certain that it is equally as necessary, if not more so, to see after the welfare of those inmates in a spiritual and in an immortal sense.

I am very much encouraged as I visit the inmates in their rooms, in every department of our institution, whether in the almshouse, the insane asylum, or hospital, to find that I enjoy an audience with each and every individual with whom I come in contact. There are old ladies in our hospital who are almost as near and dear to my heart as my own mother was, and yet she passed into the Glory Land twenty years ago. They asked me, when I told them I was coming to this Convention, what the nature of the Convention was, and I couldn't tell them. One good old lady took my hand and said: "Mr. Kauffman, while you are away don't forget to pray for us."

I want to say that some of the very best Christians to-day are in our hospitals and almshouses, and they need the attention of some Godly man and some Godly woman; and it is a blessing to every man and woman who takes up this work. I am glad our county is becoming interested in the spiritual welfare of these people, so that they employ a moral instructor, and I believe that part of the work is well cared for, not because I am the Chaplain, but because our Board of Managers have given me their sympathy and their help and are endeavoring to do all they can to better the moral condition of our inmates.

Some people say, "Oh, they are of that class that don't amount to much," but if you study the life of Jesus Christ you find that he associated with the poor and the poor heard him gladly. So let us go on in this work of sympathy and love and Christian development among the inmates of our institutions. [Applause.]

Mr. Henry Wiggins, of Fayette, here read the following paper on

## Discipline of Almshouses and Hospitals; How to Deal with Tramps.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentleman of the Convention.

I propose for a short while to discuss the management of the poor-house with especial reference to the tramp, or the vagrant question. It is, indeed, a very hard matter to deal with tramps. They are like the poor—we have them always with us. They roam over the land, invade our property, endanger our buildings, frighten our wives and daughters, sometimes request, but more frequently demand as a charity, the subsistence they are abundantly able to earn. That some way be devised to stop all this is imperative.

The Act of May 8, 1876, provides, among other things, that these persons may be, by due process of law, committed to labor upon any county farm, or on the roads of any city, township, or borough, or in any house of correction, poorhouse, workhouse, or common jail for not less than thirty days nor more than six months, and provides for their commitment, etc. A subsequent section of the act relates to the duty of the officers to whose custody these vagrants are committed to provide work for them.

It is possible that the tramp question might be largely provided for in our boroughs and townships under this and other acts, if borough officials were alert as to their duties and powers in relation to the matter. Where streets are dirty and tramps are available they may well be so employed.

The one sovereign remedy for the tramp evil is work, **Work, WORK.** The authorities of Fayette County have not been without experience with tramps. Some two years ago apartments were fitted up at the county home for their reception. Men were employed to guard them, and they were set to work in a limestone quarry on the county home farm. They got out a prodigious amount of stone, but, owing to the fact that the main line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, running from Pittsburg to New York, passes for a considerable distance through our county, and because of the overzealousness of one or two of our Jus-

tices and Constables, we soon found that we were becoming the dumping ground for all the tramps between Chicago and New York who favored the empty freight cars of this road with their patronage when traveling.

While, as I have before observed, the one remedy of the tramp evil is work in good large doses, properly administered, the matter is somewhat complicated by the position of the labor organizations, which demand that this labor shall not come into competition with the products of the labor of honest men. And, looking at the matter from their position, we cannot say that they are entirely wrong. We are, however, thereby forced to the conclusion that to solve this question in the best way, both of the above conditions must be met. Tramps (and convicts as well) must be made to work, and, if they be physically able, the harder the better, but at the same time matters must be so managed that the honest laborer shall not suffer thereby. The one way that is better than all other ways to accomplish this result is to make all confirmed vagrants (and most of our criminals as well) wards of the State, rather than of the county. Let the Commonwealth take full charge of them upon final conviction, care for them, manage them, work them. Let them be under the charge of some competent, expert head, and so handled that the greatest amount of result shall be obtained with the least amount of effort. Let the most modern appliances be furnished, and, that the rights of honest labor be not assailed, let them be employed on the public roads of the State.

By a course of this kind not only may the tramp evil be lessened, if not entirely abated, but our tramps and criminals as well may be made to at least partially recompense the State for the wrong done it. The labor of our honest fellow-citizens will receive proper protection; the opposition—at least the just opposition—of labor organizations will be eliminated, and we may finally succeed in turning even our tramps and criminals into a positive benefit to the public; or, if this be too much to hope for, we will at least have a condition of things better than the present. None can well be worse, for we now have our work-houses as the only places in the State where it is unlawful to work, and at the same time find it impossible to employ tramps or convicts anywhere except perhaps to the detriment of honest labor.

In the absence of Mr. Strine, of Lancaster, Mr. Kauffman read the following paper that had been prepared by Mr. Strine:

The subject allotted to me, namely, "The Provisioning of an Alms-house and Hospital," for discussion and consideration by such an honorable body of men is one of wide scope, and above all of vast importance.

When Judas murmured because Mary anointed Jesus with costly ointment and said it ought to have been sold and the money given to the poor, Jesus answered: "The poor ye have always with you and ye can do them good at all times." So to-day the world is full of poor people who must be cared for.

A very large per cent of our poor belong to that class who, either through their own mismanagement or the misconduct of others, are rendered helpless, and must depend upon charity for the necessities and comforts of life.

God, while He always has and still cares, through his people, for the poor, put in the hearts and minds of His people to provide places where such care can be given, so the idea of almshouses and hospitals is the direct product of the divine mind, and in all Christian lands they are found.

First—In managing these institutions one of the most important matters which concerns the authorities is to look well to the proper food which is given the inmates. The subject is one which should be started upon its fundamental principles. I will endeavor to express my ideas on one branch which I deem the most important—food. Before I endeavor to express my ideas on food, I will make one grand and true assertion.

It is not the quantity (although every one should have enough to satisfy a respectable hunger), but the quality of the different foods used.

The first question presenting itself is: What is food; or what does food consist in?



Food consists of the different articles which the human stomach has the power of converting into wholesome nourishment for the system. It embraces almost every substance in nature and belongs equally to the animal, mineral, and vegetable kingdoms.

Food is either solid or liquid matter, and in all cases taken with a two-fold object, which is to supply heat to the system and repair the waste and expenditure of the body.

Before the properties of certain elements constituting the food of daily life can be properly and satisfactorily understood, it will be necessary to show how nearly they approach in their elements, or approximate principles, the constitution of the frame they are meant to restore and nourish. The human body consists of fluids and solid properties, which I am not able to give. The materials out of which the body is built are those substances which render our different articles of diet nutritious and valuable. No matter how tempting a meal of roast beef, cauliflower, and bread may be, if you divest the one of its glue and the others of their soda and fluid, the repast would become actually hurtful. That we may estimate the quality of our food, not by the savory and attractiveness of the viand, but by its flesh-producing and heat-giving principles, it is necessary that every one should know what constitutes the nutritious principles of our food, and those substances which make bone, muscle, nerve, and fibre, fluids and solids.

It is very important that we have a thorough knowledge of the chemical constituents of the articles forming the catalogue of our daily nourishment. Truly speaking, it is an absolute necessity, as far as the perfect health of the system is concerned, that every one who has charge of culinary and cooking departments of an institution such as we represent here to-day or the mistress of the household should possess such knowledge.

In selecting the various articles of meats, fruits, and vegetables how seldom, if ever, does the person intrusted with that duty pause, even for a moment, to inquire whether the articles selected contain those elements necessary to the proper health of the body, and the absence of which, when persisted in, induces a train of disease to young and old.

In conclusion I would say, taking care of food depends upon the surroundings. Where you must buy from the markets of the world goods which have been shipped, of course, cold storage and vegetable cellars are a necessity.

As for Lancaster County, which I have the honor to represent to-day, we may not be so much in need of a cold storage room or vegetable cellar, and yet I believe even with us this would be helpful. We get our vegetables and meats fresh every day, as we have a fertile farm of 195 acres, of which 140 acres are tillable and five acres used for trucking; the balance, fifty acres, is pasture and timber land. On our truck patch we grow many of our vegetables. We also get our meats fresh every day. We have an icehouse with a capacity of 100 tons, which ice we use in our institution. In all the buildings we have ice chests, where ice is kept constantly and is used for butter and all perishable goods.

Mrs. J. O. Brown, of Pittsburg, not being present, and no one present to read her paper, and the program for the afternoon having been otherwise completed, the Convention here adjourned until 7:30 o'clock this evening.

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## EVENING SESSION.

The Convention met, pursuant to adjournment, at 7:30 p. m. and was entertained, while gathering, by the Somerset Concert Orchestra.

In the temporary absence of President Gould, Mr. McGonnigle called the Convention to order.

Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Somerset, offered prayer.

The Convention was here entertained by a solo, "Tell Me, Beautiful Maiden," by Gounod, sung very sweetly by Miss McMillan, of Somerset.

Hon. William H. Koontz, of Somerset, was introduced to the Convention by Mr. McGonnigle and was received with applause and spoke as follows:

## Our Republic; Its Practicability and Its Power for Good with Reference to Work of Charity.

Mr. President, Members of the State Board of Charities, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The subject that I have been asked to speak upon to-night naturally divides itself into two propositions—first, our republic; second, its capabilities and power for good, with reference to the work of charities.

Our Government is composed of three parts—first, the Federal Government; second, the State Government, of the forty-five sovereign States which make up this country; and, third, the seventy-five or eighty millions of people that really make up the bone and sinew of the country.

The Federal Government is the creature of the Constitution adopted in 1787. Its powers are enumerated in the Constitution. It is limited to the words in the grant, either by express words or by necessary implication. The Federal Government cannot exceed the powers numerated in the Constitution. It has certain well-defined powers. It can levy and assess taxes, it can declare war, it can establish postoffices and post roads, and numerous other things that are set forth in the Constitution.

The powers of the General Government, however, have been largely increased by judicial interpretation, and this country is largely indebted to John Marshall, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, in determining upon cases that arose before him, the implied powers of the Constitution. The country is also indebted largely to Daniel Webster as the great expounder of the Constitution.

But neither by express words nor by necessary implication is there any power on the part of the general Government of the United States to enter upon a work of charity. It has, however, in a restricted sense, this power. Under the Constitution the Federal Government has exclusive jurisdiction over the District of Columbia, and in that District there are certain charitable institutions that are maintained by the Government of the United States.

It has also charge of the wards of the Nation, the Indians. It has, also, under the war power of the Government, certain other powers. It has power to create hospitals and homes for its disabled soldiers and seamen, and we all know how bountifully our Government has performed its duty in that respect. Go, for instance, to one of the soldiers' homes and there you will find every comfort for the veteran soldier. The United States Government has been, perhaps, more liberal in this respect than any other government on the face of the earth.

It has, also, power, and has exercised that power, in dealing with other countries. When the Government of the United States occupied Cuba, after she had expelled Spain from the western continent, the power of the Government was exercised, first, in restoring order in the island, next in improving the sanitary condition of the island, and, finally, when the Government of the United States was ready to pass over to Cuba and to recognize her autonomy as a distinct government the sanitary condition, through the efforts of the United States Government, was largely improved, and yellow fever—that pest that had scourged not only Cuba, but because of its proximity to our country had been a menace to us—was largely done away with.

So it has gone out into the Philippine Islands. When Spain was conquered our dominion extended away into the Orient, and there the Government of the United States has not only attended to the sanitary condition of Manila and the islands, but it has, in addition to that, established schools there, and has endeavored in every way to alleviate the condition of the people of that country, as well as to establish order and genuine civil liberty among its people.

There have been a few things, perhaps, in which the general Government has exercised works of charity. I remember when I was a young man there was a famine in Ireland, and the United States sent a shipload of provisions to feed those famished people. I remember at the close of the Civil War there was an appropriation of \$2,000,000 to the Freedmen's Bureau of the South, to assist and relieve the colored people.

These are the restrictive powers of the Government, and therefore, so far as the general Government of the United States is concerned, there is no power to enter upon a general work of charity.

The word "charity" does not appear in the Constitution of the United States.

We next come to what constitutes the power that is represented by the forty-five sovereign States of this Union. I believe in nearly all of them (although I haven't had the time or opportunity to make an examination), but I think it is unquestioned that in most of the forty-five States of the Union, either by Legislative enactment or Constitutional provision, there are arrangements made for the purpose of carrying on just the work that this honorable body is engaged in at this time. And I am pleased to say that Pennsylvania is, I believe, in the lead of all the States.

Looking over the Appropriation bill a day or so ago I found that there were appropriations to 180 benevolent and charitable institutions in the State of Pennsylvania, and the aggregate of appropriations for two years, as I was informed by my excellent friend, Mr. Biddle, amounts to \$6,000,000. Think of that—the great State of Pennsylvania, an empire in itself, with a population of six or seven million, appropriating \$3,000,000 a year for the purpose of taking care of the people that you are now engaged in watching their best interests. It shows the liberality of our people.

So much for the States of the Union. I merely make this reference to our one State, and I know that every citizen of the Commonwealth may feel proud of what has been done by the people of their State, through their legislative body, in taking care of those who are dependent upon us for charity.

I come, next, to what really constitutes the bone and sinew and power of this great country, and that is the seventy-five or eighty millions of free men that inhabit it from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

This is our Republic; our Republic, composed of seventy odd millions of people, and it is a great people—great in every respect. It was great in freeing the thirteen colonies from the bondage of Great Britain; it was great in laying the foundation of the Government in that magnificent instrument called the Constitution of the United States. It has been great in the development of this country, a country that has grown from three millions to seventy-five or eighty millions of people. It will stand in history for its greatness in abolishing the accursed institution of human slavery; it is great in its power among the powers of the world. It has crossed the ocean, has acquired the Hawaiian Islands, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands, and eventually Cuba will fall into the lap of the United States of America. It is the most wonderful power ever exercised by any people since this planet was first swung into existence. It is great in the intellectual development of its people; great in its common schools, great in its colleges and universities, great in its intellectual men, in its philosophers, its poets, its statesmen, and its historians. Our historians have written the histories of foreign countries. Motley wrote "The Rise of the Dutch Republic." Our statesmen like Clay, Webster, and Lincoln, and others stand among the foremost of the world.

And great as it is in all these lines, it is great and magnificent in its works of charity. [Applause.] Where does this charity come from? First, in organized charities, such as we see in Pennsylvania—all these institutions that have been organized throughout this Commonwealth. It comes from every section of the country; from private homes and from innumerable sources all over this land. It comes from men who have been willing to give from their abundant means that which helps to sustain and maintain those who are dependent. And I tell you here to-night it is impossible for me to tell you of the great body of philanthropists of the world, but I say to you that their memory ought to live



when the memory of such men as Alexander the Great and Caesar and Napoleon has faded away, and it may be well said of them:

"Their spirits wrap our dusky mountains,  
Their memories sparkle o'er our fountains,  
The meanest rill, the mightiest river  
Roll mingling with their fame forever."

[Applause.]

Pessimists say that the world is growing worse. I deny it. It is getting better every day. It is better now than it has ever been. Buckle, the great author of the work on civilization, says that the great fundamental dogmas out of which moral systems have grown have been existent in all ages of the world—"to do good," "to love your neighbor," and all that, and that the race is growing better, for if it did not grow better it would be exterminated.

The application of steam and electricity have made the whole world kin, and now charity is abroad over the whole land. It is said that "Little drops of water make the mighty ocean," and so it is with these little acts of charity. They, too, make a mighty ocean of charity that covers the whole habitable globe. Remembering that

"The glory of the goodness  
Never dies,  
Its flag is not half-masted  
In the skies."

Let me speak of one incident—it occurred to me while listening to the admirable address we have listened to. About the time of the Civil War there was a little colored boy who was reared in a hovel that had an earthen floor, and he was a slave. His mother was a slave. He lay upon that floor upon a pile of rags for his bed, and there was only a hole beside the door to let in the light, and to let in the cold, also. Eventually the great Emancipation Proclamation came and the slaves were free. This little fellow did not know his own father. He started one day, when he was a lad of ten or twelve, to go to Hampton School. He had no money. He had a little pack on his shoulder that held his few duds, and when he came to the city of Richmond he had no place to lodge and he lay under the pavement with his little package for a pillow, and heard the people of Richmond tramp up and down over his head. He arose the next morning, but he had no money with which to buy his breakfast, and he was hungry. He went to where they were loading some vessels and asked to earn money enough to pay for his breakfast, and he got it. He went on his way to the school, and he was told that the school was full, and he asked simply that he might do something and the woman in charge gave him the job of cleaning up one of the rooms. He did it so carefully, going over it two or three times, that finally she said, "You can stay," and that was the initiation of Booker T. Washington to the Hampton School. [Applause.] And now where is he? He is to-day the foremost man of his race. He has established in Tuskegee, Ala., a school, not for the purpose of teaching men to become professionals, like doctors and lawyers, but to become skilled mechanics. They make brick there; they build their houses. All the mechanical trades and arts are followed there, and the great scheme of Booker T. Washington is to educate his people on lines of honest labor. That work is kept up by the charity of the people of this country, and I say there is no nobler work of a secular character on the earth than this, and there is no nobler man. And the men that denounced the President of the United States for having Booker T. Washington sit at his table are not worthy to unloose the latchet of his shoes. [Applause.] I believe in the goodness of man, I don't care who is his father.

The story is told of Alexander the Great when he was traversing Asia, conquering and to conquer, he came to a valley where there was a peaceable people, and in the course of conversation with the prince of that people he told them how he managed things in his country. How he overran the land with his troops and conquered and took them captives, and the reply made by the semi-barbarous prince was: "Does the sun shine in your country; do the rivers flow; does the rain fall; does the grass grow?" See what a rebuke that was to the man who had con-

quered the world and wept because there were no other worlds to conquer.

I believe in the nobility of manhood, no matter where found, whether in the tropics or in the temperate zones. I am a firm believer in the doctrine of Robert Burns, that

"A man's a man, for a' that,  
For a' that, and a' that."

Now I have probably taken more time than I should have taken. I just wish to say to this honorable body that you are engaged in a work which must meet with the approval of every right-minded man throughout this Commonwealth and throughout the Union. This is a noble work, and the encouragement that you receive on occasions like this will stimulate you to new vigor; it will soothe you in the dark hour when the dread messenger comes to summon you to that undiscovered country from whence no traveler returns. And oh, let us be strengthened by this scene to-night, and remember the sentiment contained in these line:

"Have you had a kindness shown?  
Pass it on;  
'Twas not given to you alone,  
Pass it on;  
Let it travel down the years,  
Let it wipe another's tears,  
Until in heaven the deed appears,  
Pass it on."

This address was received with the most hearty approval of the Convention.

At the conclusion of the address by Judge Koontz the Convention was very agreeably entertained with selections by the girls' chorus, under the direction of Rose Constance Callaghan, of the College of Music.

Mrs. E. S. Lindsey, of Warren, Pa., here read the following interesting paper:

## The Responsibility of the State to the Delinquent Children, and the Future of the Children's Aid Society.

When I first mastered the title of my subject I stood aghast. "The Responsibility of the State"—a subject so utterly beyond me. I was reminded of the Boston spinster who desired to be strong-minded on a limited capital. I think it was Louisa Alcott whom she consulted and who, far from encouraging her, observed kindly: "Of course you are not fitted to be a woman suffragist—why I doubt if you even know the correct meaning of the word State."

"Of course I do," responded the irate female. "The State is a body of dreadful good-looking men who call each other names."

My surprise at having such a subject assigned me was not lessened by the somewhat pointed explanation on behalf of Warren which my friend, Mrs. Blood, gave this morning. But those of us who know the keenness of Mrs. Blood's wit also appreciate the sugared form in which she presents her witticisms, reminding me of the ancient spinster who, when the doctor expostulated with her for taking so much sugar in her tea, responded: "Oh, doctor, the superfluity of the sugar entirely destroys the animosity of the tea."

But why speculate on the whys and wherefores. Reputation is at best an uncertain quality. Do you not recall the farmer living next to Farmer Webster, father of the immortal Daniel, who was urged to send his sons to college. "Wall, I don't know 'bout it," he said, reflectively, "there was Mr. and Mis Webster bound Zeke and Dan should go to college—skimped and saved all the gosh-all-hemlock time. Wall, they got Dan to Dartmouth and he got through some way, no one never knew how; came home, went off down Boston way, warn't never heard of afterwards. No, sir; I ain't much for eddication."

For the few disconnected thoughts I shall offer you this evening I make no apology. But do not take them too seriously. I am reminded



of the colored gentleman who desired to have his picture taken. "Is there any especial way you would like to be taken, Mr. Johnson," asked the photographer. "Yes, sah," responded Mr. Johnson, emphatically; "if there is no dejection I should like to be taken very light."

If it is true that "that country is the wealthiest which has the greatest number of happy human beings," then from the Socialists' standpoint it becomes not only the duty, but the privilege of the State to provide the conditions for this happiness and to guard against the evils and abuses which seek to degrade and destroy. The promise of the glory and sweetness of the flower lies hid in the tightly-twisted petals of the bud, but it must have created for it an environment which shall develop and mature its hidden promises. When harshness and neglect have perfected their bitter work we realize too late Keats' thought. "A rose may not shut and be a bud again." What a pathetic army of waifs and unfortunates are before our mind's eye to-night—the delinquent children, the abused, the neglected; and the cry goes up, "How long?" Between the extreme individualism of Herbert Spencer and the radical Socialist there is a great gulf fixed. He who would tread a middle path finds the way beset with difficulties. The old-fashioned and conservative still cling to the fond idea that children belong to their parents. Do what we may, we cannot legislate away the subtle bond which binds soul to soul. "Bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh." In place of this Socialism would place the responsibility upon the State or community in general, counting as next to nothing the great redemptive power of love. One can scarcely fancy the prodigal son, when he came to himself, saying, "I will arise and go unto the State."

The responsibility of the State to the delinquent children seems to me largely a matter of law. The advisability of a juvenile court, the vexed question of adult punishments being meted out to juvenile offenders—these questions I am frank to say are beyond me. To sum up my conviction that the State's duty is to provide a thoroughly fair and just trial for every youthful offender does not seem to cast a searchlight upon the problem.

My abrupt dismissal of the subject assigned me reminds me of the New England boy called upon to write a composition on the throat, which he expounded as follows: "A throat is convenient to have, especially to roosters and ministers. The former eats corn and crows with it; the latter preaches through his'n and then ties it up. This is pretty much all I can think of about necks."

#### Future of the Children's Aid Society.

If it were permitted us to raise the veil which an all-wise Providence has placed between us and the impenetrable future, how much of interest and progress would stand revealed. The Children's Aid Society might have evolved to a point of perfection which should put to shame Bellamy's most ideal plans. Permitted to attend one of our conventions, you might discover the women unanimous on all points, discussions unknown, and as you listened to our county reports be impressed with the idea that the infant terrible was a thing of the past and that we were but the earthly custodians of a race of beatific beings. But Carlyle says, "Our grand business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand." So from this ideal future I pass to a sober prophecy of our future based upon the results of the past. Nothing would be of more interest, did time permit, than to trace the historical evolution of the charities of this country down to the present day. In the early colonial times, and indeed down to the beginning of the nineteenth century, the uncharitable almshouse opened its creaking doors to the unfortunates. Over its grim portals might well have been written: "Abandon hope all ye who enter here." Seemingly half retributive, it pointed the finger of shame at the unfortunates whose crime against society was poverty. Aside from this, there existed a crude form of outdoor relief, apparently copied from the English poor law. Later an effort was made to differentiate between the pauper and the criminal; then, like a burst of sunshine illumining the clouds of superstition and prejudice, came the recognition of the needs and rights of dependent children. The century, opening with attempts at palliative charity, closed a few months ago an era of preventative effort. Holmes asserts that men are tattooed with their special beliefs like South Sea Islanders, but a real human heart with divine love in it

beats with the same glow under all the patterns of all earth's thousand tribes. It is this divine spark which has never suffered extinction, which has been the vital warmth and sustaining power of all charitable effort. No term so appeals to the heart of the maternal woman as "child saving." She sees the tiny waif looking helplessly out "over the great wild sea of life with its surge and roar," and instinctively her arms are outstretched and the desolate finds a mother. The Children's Aid Society, like Minerva, was born fully equipped; that is to say, it came into existence as the direct answer to a need—what to do with the children placed in our poorhouses. The law forbade their detention longer than sixty days, and to always find places suitable for them in our overcrowded institutions was difficult.

The Children's Aid Society, like all other charitable organizations, is in a state of evolution. Each year, thank God, new light breaks in upon our darkness; old mistakes are rectified and new methods are successfully demonstrated.

If I might plead for one important change in our future work it would be for a better understanding between the Directors of the Poor and the Aid Society. Experiment has proved that they can be invaluable to each other, and this can only be brought about by mutual concessions. Nothing so aggravates the masculine mind as the idea of interference or a dictatorial attitude. When the Creator made woman the weaker vessel he compensated by bestowing upon her guileless arts which have accomplished in the world's history what force has been powerless to do. Many a sharp corner could be successfully turned by a little diplomacy. We have much to learn at the hands of our Poor Directors, and they could not fail to find their perplexities lessened by co-operation with intelligent, energetic women. If we are to grow wiser from conviction and fulfill each grand design we must broaden and deepen from each and every experience. In the past the policy of all reform workers was to part an unfortunate child from an erring mother to hide its history, lest it be branded with illegitimacy. To-day in many instances the child is recognized as the redemptive power in the woman's life, fulfilling the tender assurance that a little child shall lead them. Environment and heredity were almost unintelligible words to our great-grandmothers, at least; to-day the successful Children's Aid worker feels the need of an intelligent comprehension of these subjects. If the correct boundaries of our work could be given I fancy it would read, bounded on the north by Providence, on the south by Love, on the east by Lawyers, and on the west by Physicians. Let us infuse into that future all the love we are capable of, all the tenderness we possess, all the wisdom we can acquire, coming close to humanity's heart and giving the true warmth that shall bring better things to pass.

After the Convention had been further entertained by music by the orchestra, President Gould announced that owing to the lateness of the hour the address by Hon. Cadwalader Biddle would be postponed until to-morrow.

The Convention here adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

## PROCEEDINGS OF OCT. 15, 1902.

The Convention was called to order at 9 a. m. by President Gould.

Rev. Hiram King, of Somerset, offered prayer.

Mr. Frederick Fuller, of Scranton, Chairman of the Committee on Place of Next Meeting, said:

Your Committee on Place of Meeting unanimously recommend the City of Lancaster for the place of next meeting.

Upon motion of Dr. Murdock, of Polk, the report of the committee is adopted and the recommendation agreed to.

Mr. P. H. Bridenbaugh, of Blair, moves that the time of the next meeting be left to be fixed by the officers of the Association.

The motion is agreed to.

Hon. Cadwalader Biddle, General Agent of the Board of Public Charities, was received by the Convention with applause and spoke as follows, his subject being

## The Poor and State Charities, Laws, Reviews, Suggestions, and Remedies.

Mr. President, Ladies, and Gentlemen—I don't propose to follow my good friend, Gen. Koontz, or Mrs. Lindsey in complaining of the subject assigned to me by the committee. They thought it would be impossible to cover their subjects in the time allotted to them. When Mr. Colborn invited me to make a few remarks here I consented, and I intended to make a few commonplace remarks, but when he sent me the subject I thought it was so small it was rather belittling. The subject was simply, "The Poor and State Charities, Laws, Reviews, Suggestions, and Remedies." I am sure you will all agree that he hasn't given me any subject to talk upon. The idea of being able to address a Convention and fill ten minutes of your time on such a small subject as this. I can't imagine how he could have thought it possible for me to do so.

I object to the remarks of the Chairman in one particular. He spoke of introducing to you your "old" friend, and rather emphasized the word "old," as though you should pity the infirmities of age; but I assure you I feel young. Gen. Koontz said to me this morning, "How old are you?" I am not in the habit of telling, but I told him exactly, and he says: "Why, I have eight years the advantage of you; I am eight years older than you are." I says, "General, I always thought you were a man of your word, but I am disposed to doubt it now." And the gentleman next to me said he never would have believed it, but would have exactly reversed the situation. [Laughter.]

This is an important subject that I have been assigned to speak upon, and I cannot do justice to it in so short a time. I am happy to say that I was born in Pennsylvania, and have always lived in Pennsylvania, and hope to die in Pennsylvania. I have traveled over the Union pretty thoroughly, and I know no State that begins to compare with Pennsylvania in its work for charity.

I was pleased a short time ago on reading an article in one of the daily papers giving an interview with President Norton, of Harvard University. He spoke of Boston having been so many years the Hub of the Universe, and especially the intellectual hub. He said that with the increase of population the hub was moving away from them, and instead of centering in Boston, it was then centering in Philadelphia. It surprised me that a Massachusetts man should pay such a tribute to Pennsylvania, and I found that Prof. Norton stated that the three most eminent writers of the present day in America were Philadelphians. I wanted to know whom he singled out, and I found that he cited Dr. S. Wier Mitchell, not only as a novelist, but also on medical subjects; Dr. Howard Furness, the best Shakespearian commentator of the day, and Henry Charles Lee, who has written a number of works that have excited great attention throughout the world. He said they were the three first writers in America, if not in the world. [Applause.]. They are all three Philadelphians.

Mr. Biddle here read the following paper:

Members of the Association of the Directors of the Poor and Charities of Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, Ladies, and Gentlemen—If the provision made for the care and treatment of the dependent classes is to be taken as the criterion by which we are to judge of the rank to which a community belongs, then Pennsylvania has indeed reason to be proud. Nowhere else has greater interest been taken in establishing and carefully fostering institutions to lessen the sorrows which necessarily fall to the lot of mankind. The State, the counties, the municipalities, and individuals have all contributed liberally to this end. It was inevitable that in



many instances mistakes should be made, and that the means adopted to relieve should often be found to increase rather than decrease human misery. But the motives which have actuated those interested in establishing such agencies have been for the most part high and noble, even when the knowledge necessary to make such efforts successful has been wanting. This only experience can give.

Pennsylvania was the first to appreciate how necessary a substantial education is to give to her people the wisdom required to make zeal a potent factor in beneficent enterprise. This State has contributed more largely than any other State to establish an efficient school system throughout its borders. Its appropriations have been so liberal that each county has been able to build schoolhouses creditable to the wealthiest community, without being hampered by too heavy local taxation. As a State she has largely fostered the Normal Schools, whereby teachers have been trained and equipped for the proper instruction of the children gathered together under their care. In the interest which she has taken in establishing schools for the maintenance and education of the soldiers' orphans, she is without a parallel. In her institutions for the care of the blind, the deaf and dumb, and the feeble-minded, she has most creditably assumed that they were her wards and has done her utmost to benefit these classes. The care that she has given her insane, whether in State or county institutions, has been equally beneficent. She alone, of all the States, has established State institutions wherein the soldiers and their families could pass their declining years, relieved from the necessity of resorting to the poorhouse.

The counties, too, of this State, as I need hardly say to this audience, have, for the most part, erected homes for the care of their poor and dependent classes. These institutions are, as a rule, not, as was once the case, dilapidated structures, filthy and disgusting, but they are homes in reality, clean and tidy. I never return from a visitation of such institutions without the feeling that the work of improvement is going on, and that at no distant day every county will possess a well-ordered home for its indigent poor.

Municipalities are not behind the State and counties in the work they are doing to relieve the distress which necessarily falls upon the poorer classes. Recreation grounds, hospitals, and homes are everywhere multiplying.

If so much has been accomplished by the public at large, what shall we say of individual enterprise? There is hardly a family that is not associated in some way with a society whose object it is to add to the well-being and comfort of their fellow-beings. The money annually contributed for this purpose is enormous, while the amount bestowed in legacies for charitable objects surpasses that at any time heretofore given.

So much for the tangible work being done in our midst. Let us consider for a moment the vast amount of thought which is being given to such subjects. The press fairly teems with suggestions as to the best methods of dealing with pauperism and disease. The legal community turns its attention to the consideration of the laws relating to such matters and to their proper enforcement. The medical fraternity is occupied with evolving the best sanitary methods and appliances, while the clergy are no longer confining their attention to dogmatic theology, but are studying how best to apply the Christian principles to the body politic. Just here I desire to pay tribute incidentally to the admirable manner in which the charities conducted by the Hebrew race are administered in Pennsylvania.

Our book shelves are fairly overladen with works bearing on matters philanthropic. The daily press has its special department devoted to that end. The weekly, monthly, and quarterly journals are more and more occupied with such themes, while special works relating to charities are printed without number. One often feels that too much time and space are given to such ends. We have annual conferences of charities and correction, prison societies, social science meetings, etc., etc., each one, as a general thing, covering over a week's time, and all feeling aggrieved if their sessions are not well attended. It is very pleasant to come into such gatherings, but well nigh impossible amid all the pressure of modern times.



It has been said that we are ever learning, but never wise. Many views which we once fondly cherished have been cast aside, in the march of human progress, and new and previously unthought-of measures and considerations have taken their place. At one time the philanthropic world was enthusiastic over the benefits derived from large institutions, wherein, by reason of large numbers of inmates, proper classification could be the better obtained. Everywhere classification was talked up, as though it were the panacea for all evils. That idea ran its course. Its advocates discovered, however, after a while, that too much classification meant that the individual was entirely lost sight of, and that what was good for one was often bad for another. The idea of classification as a sure means of relief has been abandoned. While it is in a degree necessary, it is no longer regarded as the one essential, and the true ideal of a home is found to be that in which the inmates are not so numerous as to forbid individual care and treatment. We all differ in our tastes, as well as our needs. The maxim that "what is one man's meat is another man's poison" is as true to-day as it ever was. To enforce that which would be enjoyment to one would be cruelty to another. No institution should be so large as to preclude the consideration of individual needs. After all, it comes to this, which we have all learned, that "there is no place like home," and, when one is deprived of that, true charity should lend itself to providing comforts which will come as near to a substitute for home as possible. Under such an influence there will be found the greatest degree of contentment, and where this prevails there is always less temptation to evil in all its forms.

It is a very common idea that a panacea for all troubles is to be found in legislative enactments. I am satisfied that we suffer from too much, rather than too little, legislation. An intelligent community can be trusted to a large extent to work out for itself the best methods of providing for its wants. What is best suited for one district may be utterly unfit for another. Hence laws which are uniform in their application may not be adapted to all requirements. One county may need more than one home, for instance, for its poor, while another county, in a rural district, having but few dependents, and many well-to-do inhabitants disposed to look after the poor, might be able to dispense with any such public institution.

Let me quote, in closing, another adage: "A stream cannot rise above its sources." Let our pulpit, press, and philanthropists strive to awaken a high sense of duty among our people, and, when public sentiment is sufficiently aroused, under our existing laws, we can make provision for the proper treatment of such distresses as shall be found within our borders.

I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for your attention, and I trust that you will return to your homes both pleased with and profited by your visit to Somerset.

I would like to add a word about a subject that has been very dear to my heart, and that is the county care for the insane. I have given great attention to that matter. For a long time in Pennsylvania our State institutions have not been able to accommodate the numbers of insane who have applied for admission. Notably Philadelphia, Allegheny, Lackawanna, and Lancaster have been caring for their insane for many years. Some time ago I was talking with Mr. Elliott, when I visited Pittsburgh, and he told me that Allegheny County had resolved to send its insane to Dixmont. He told me that the only reason for so doing was that it was then costing the county of Allegheny, the City of Pittsburgh, \$2.25 for each insane person per week. That they could have them treated at Dixmont for \$1.25 a week. That as the head of the Department of Charities he felt that he was not justified in allowing the City of Pittsburgh to pay so much more than other counties were paying. He said if the State would agree to pay the county the difference he would agree to keep them.

When I reached Harrisburg, after that conversation, I drew an act, which I submitted to Mr. Elliott and he came to Harrisburg, and that act was finally passed by the Legislature and it went before Gov. Pattison, and, although many of us urged him to sign it, he was prejudiced against county care and vetoed the act.

But I have witnessed the operation of the law since that and I give

it my most unqualified approval. The State institutions cannot do what can be done by the county institutions.

When one of a family is sent to the State institution—take for instance the three central districts—Harrisburg, Warren, and Danville—the distance prevents anything like visitation, and although I have frequently requested from the superintendents to let me know the percentage of inmates who receive visits, I cannot get it. I am satisfied it is because a large percentage never have a visitor or have an inquiry made after them.

It is a well-known matter that homesickness is a cause of insanity. If so, will that not also retard recovery in cases of insanity? An inmate who is sent to a home and never visited or called for is likely to have the worst kind of homesickness. But send him to the county home and he is ever surrounded by those who ought to have an interest in him. If he is not visited, other inmates are sure to be, from his section, and those who should be interested in him are certain to hear from him. They are reminded of his or her existence all the time, and it is beneficial to them, and the percentage of recovery is vastly greater.

Then the number of inmates is so much smaller that they can have that individual care which is so necessary in cases of insanity.

That which may be ruinous in one case is the best course to pursue in another. So I am heartily in favor of the county care of the insane.

The paper and remarks of Mr. Biddle were received with applause.

Mr. John Wilson, Chairman of the Auditing Committee, submitted and read the following report:

### Report of the Treasurer.

Louis Tisch, in account with the Association of the Directors of the Poor and Charities of Pennsylvania as Treasurer.

The Treasurer charges himself with the moneys received from the following poor districts, institutions, and societies for the year ending October 14, 1902:

#### 1901.

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| From Directors of Poor, Cambria County.....      | \$ 15 00 |
| Directors of Poor, Central Poor District.....    | 20 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Washington County.....        | 15 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Bedford County.....           | 15 90    |
| Directors of Poor, Allegheny County.....         | 20 90    |
| Directors of Poor, Warren County.....            | 5 60     |
| Directors of Poor, Allegheny City.....           | 25 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Lancaster County.....         | 15 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Westmoreland County.....      | 20 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Lebanon County.....           | 15 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Germantown Poor District..... | 15 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Montgomery County.....        | 15 00    |

#### 1902.

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Directors of Poor, York County.....                       | 15 00 |
| Directors of Poor, Blair County.....                      | 20 00 |
| Directors of Poor, Pittston Poor District.....            | 15 00 |
| Directors of Poor, Berks County.....                      | 15 00 |
| Children's Aid Society, Fayette County.....               | 5 00  |
| Children's Aid Society, Cameron County.....               | 5 00  |
| Children's Aid Society, Somerset County.....              | 5 00  |
| Children's Aid Society, Crawford County.....              | 5 00  |
| Children's Aid Society, Cambria County.....               | 5 00  |
| Children's Aid Society, Elk County.....                   | 5 00  |
| Children's Aid Society, Greene County.....                | 5 00  |
| Children's Aid Society, Chester County.....               | 5 00  |
| Children's Aid Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia..... | 15 00 |
| Children's Aid Society of Western Pennsylvania.....       | 10 00 |
| Children's Aid Society, Indiana County.....               | 5 00  |
| Directors of Poor, Coal Township Poor District.....       | 15 00 |
| Directors of Poor, Delaware County.....                   | 20 00 |
| Directors of Poor, Somerset County.....                   | 10 00 |
| Directors of Poor, Fayette County.....                    | 15 00 |

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Directors of Poor, Erie County.....   | 20 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Chester County.....  | 15 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Huntingdon County.....                                       | 10 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Franklin County.....   | 15 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Adams County.....  | 10 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Scranton Poor District.....                                  | 20 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Blakely Poor District.....                                   | 10 00    |
| Directors of Poor, Carbondale Poor District.....                                | 10 00    |
| Children's Aid Society, Jefferson County.....                                   | 5 00     |
| Children's Aid Society, Warren County.....                                      | 5 00     |
| Children's Aid Society, Clearfield County.....                                  | 5 00     |
| Children's Aid Society, Lawrence County (New Castle)....                        | 5 00     |
| Directors of Poor, Washington County.....                                       | 5 00     |
| Trustees of State Hospital at Warren.....                                       | 15 00    |
| Trustees of State Hospital at Harrisburg.....                                   | 15 00    |
| Trustees of Deaf and Dumb School, Edgewood.....                                 | 10 00    |
| Trustees of Friends' Asylum, Philadelphia.....                                  | 10 00    |
| Trustees of Pennsylvania Reform School, Morgantown.....                         | 15 00    |
| Trustees of Blind School of Pittsburg.....                                      | 10 00    |
| Trustees of Pennsylvania Training School, Elwyn.....                            | 15 00    |
| Trustees of Pennsylvania Training School, Polk.....                             | 15 00    |
| Total amount received as reported.....  | \$630 00 |
| Cash on hand at last audit.....   | 18 76    |
| Total .....   | \$648 76 |
| The Treasurer, Louis Tisch, claims credit for the following moneys paid out:    |          |
| To Myers & Shinkle, printing reports.....                                       | \$120 05 |
| Ira E. Briggs, reporting proceedings.....                                       | 122 50   |
| R. D. McGonnigle, moneys advanced on indebtedness.....                          | 100 00   |
| Myers & Shinkle, printing reports.....  | 100 00   |
| E. P. Gould, expenses.....  | 24 74    |
| Louis Tisch, expenses, etc.....   | 12 85    |
| Mrs. C. A. Endsley, Postmistress, postage.....                                  | 21 50    |
| Somerset "Herald," circulars, programs, etc.....                                | 27 50    |
| Somerset "Standard," stationery and circulars.....                              | 7 50     |
| L. C. Colborn, expenses, typewriter, telegrams, etc.....                        | 57 50    |
| Total amount paid out.....  | \$594 14 |
| Total amount received by Treasurer and Secretary.....                           | 648 76   |
| Balance in the hands of Treasurer paid to Corresponding-Secretary Colborn ..... | \$ 54 62 |

We, the undersigned Auditing Committee, do hereby report that we have examined the above account of the Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary and certify that we find the same to be correct.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of October, 1902.

We would further recommend that the same assessments be levied for the ensuing as the past year.

JOHN WILSON,  
J. M. MURDOCK,  
WILLIAM M. BROWN,  
Auditing Committee.

It is moved that the report and recommendations as to assessments being renewed the same as last year be adopted.

Mr. P. H. BRIDENBAUGH (Blair): I would like to ask whether the old assessment of two years ago is to stand? I don't think it is properly evened up throughout the State. The counties that are assessed \$20 should be reduced to \$15, and those that are assessed \$10 should be raised to \$15. Some of the counties are being imposed on.

President GOULD: I think the assessment has been made more in accordance with the size of the counties. Some of them have only paid part of their assessment, and in one case they said they had two assess-



nents, one for the County Commissioners' Convention and the other for this, and therefore had refused to pay either.

Mr. HUGHES (Cambria): Our county had two assessments last year of \$15 each. I think there was talk at the last Convention of paying in advance, so as to pay off the old debt, and we did that.

Mr. WILLIAM BROWN (Erie): I served as Treasurer of the Association for a number of years, and I found there were many of the small districts where the counties were divided up into townships, and it was decided by the Association at that time that those township homes and the Children's Aid Society—and a resolution was passed allowing them to—pay what they could afford to. That the small districts should pay \$5, and others \$10, and others \$15, and some as high as \$25. The general assessment for three or four years was \$15.

President GOULD: The motion is that the report be adopted and the assessments fixed the same as last year.

The motion is agreed to and the report and recommendations as to assessments adopted.

Mr. Bridenbaugh moves that the reports from counties be omitted and the general program proceeded with.

Agreed to.

Mrs. BLOOD (Brookville): I am requested by the Children's Aid Society to ask that the time that would have been given to Mrs. Anderson's paper be given to Mrs. Willard.

Dr. J. Moorhead Murdock, Superintendent at Polk, was called upon for his report of the institution and responded as follows:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Convention.

I am here in the interest of the feeble-minded. Following the movement for more humane care of the insane, which took place in the early part of the last century, attention was turned to that very much neglected class, the feeble-minded.

Among the first schools established in this country was the home and school which has grown to be the Pennsylvania Training School for Feeble-Minded at Elwyn. That was established in the 40's. About this time institutions for the care of the feeble-minded were established in most of the older States of the Union, and since that the work has extended to most of the States. In many of the States the institutions for the feeble-minded and epileptics are together, the two classes being cared for in the same institution. But at the present time there are institutions for the care of the feeble-minded in most of the States of the Union. The institution for the feeble-minded at Elwyn is overcrowded. A few years ago there was a movement toward the establishment of an institution in the western end of the State taken up by this Association, and in 1893 a bill passed the Legislature and a commission was appointed of five members, who selected the site, and the institution was built. The doors were thrown open for the admission of children in 1897.

Dr. Murdock here read the following interesting paper:

## The Report of the Condition of the Feeble-minded of Western Pennsylvania and of the School at Polk.

In 1897, before the Institution for the Feeble-Minded of Western Pennsylvania opened its doors for the reception of pupils, although statistics showed that there were over 8,000 feeble-minded persons in Pennsylvania, only 154 from the western half of the State were being cared for in the Pennsylvania Training School for Feeble-Minded Children at Elwyn, which was at that time the only institution within the State caring for the feeble-minded. For a number of years the eastern institution had been very greatly crowded, so that when the western institution was established the eastern institution was at once relieved of the



154 feeble-minded persons who had been sent to the eastern institution from the west.

Applications for the admission of feeble-minded persons into the Polk institution came pouring in in appalling numbers. These applications were acted upon, and the feeble-minded persons admitted as rapidly as possible. The institution has steadily grown until there are now 848 feeble-minded persons in the institution and there are still on file applications for the admission of others whom the institution is at present unable to accommodate.

A few words as to what is meant by a feeble-minded person and as to who are eligible for admission into institutions for the feeble-minded.

The term feeble-minded, as we use it, includes all persons whose mental faculties are undeveloped; that is, all those whose mental faculties are arrested in infancy or childhood. For this reason the feeble-minded are often spoken of as children—mentally they are such. Some years ago children who are now spoken of as feeble-minded were called idiots or imbeciles. These terms, however, are harsh and grate upon our sensibilities so that at the present time the term feeble-minded is used in a large way to include all grades of arrested mental development.

The act creating the Institution for the Feeble-Minded of Western Pennsylvania, quoting Section 10, states that "This institution shall be entirely and specifically devoted to the reception, detention, care, and training of idiotic and feeble-minded children," and in Section 15, "Adults who may be determined to be feeble-minded, and who are of such inoffensive habits as to make them proper subjects for classification and discipline in an institution for the feeble-minded, can be admitted upon pursuing the same course of legal commitment as governs admission to the State Hospital for the Insane."

The intent of the originators of the institution was to provide: First, A training school for feeble-minded children; second, A home for those feeble ones who are, by reason of their mental enfeeblement, unable to take a place as citizens in the community. It was not the intention to establish an institution for the insane, or for what might be called border-line cases; that is, those whose sanity is questioned; nor was it the intention to establish a home for paupers, nor that most unfortunate class of elderly men and women who pass into a condition of second childhood and who are without children or friends to care for them in their declining years.

In the discharge of their duties as custodians of the institution, the Trustees are compelled to refuse to admit into the institution all such persons, no matter how strongly the individual case may appeal to their sympathies. It is clearly the intention of the act creating the institution that only those whose mental powers have been arrested in infancy or childhood shall be admitted and cared for in the State Institution for the Feeble-Minded of Western Pennsylvania.

At present statistics relating to the defective classes show that there are in the neighborhood of 100,000 feeble-minded persons in the United States. In Pennsylvania there are about 10,000, less than 2,000 of whom are in the two institutions specially designed for their care, training, and treatment. But in view of the interest manifested we may confidently anticipate additional provision for this class of defectives in the near future.

Public sentiment demands that the State provide for all the feeble-minded whose presence in the home and community is a constant source of danger. Many unfortunates of this character, who are at present left to wander about as the butt of ridicule and thoughtless sport, or the victims of lust, if provided a home within a suitable institution would lead happy and contented lives and be more or less productive without becoming the irresponsible perpetrators of senseless crime or the parents of unfit children.

Of all classes of defectives none transmit their infirmity to so great a degree as the feeble-minded. No other trait, physical or mental, is so likely to be inherited. Where the ancestral stock is properly classed under this head the offspring in nearly every case shows some sign of mental inferiority, the majority being feeble-minded; many develop epilepsy; others become insane, while of those children who most nearly approach the normal many become criminals, inebriates, or prostitutes.

This tendency and the fearful consequence of allowing a feeble-minded person, particularly a girl, to run at large without proper restraint is well illustrated by the following history of a feeble-minded girl who lived in a village in western Pennsylvania in the early part of the past century, and who for convenience we will call Lucy X:

It is a matter of record that this feeble-minded girl gave birth to four feeble-minded children, all girls. These girls grew up in ignorance; were allowed to roam the neighboring country without restraint, becoming the irresponsible victims of lust, and gave birth to fourteen children. One of these children, the grandchild of Lucy X, is the father of five feeble-minded children who are being maintained at the public expense. The great majority of the offspring of Lucy X, of whom there are more than 100, are defectives, a large number of whom are to be found in the institutions for defectives and delinquents in western Pennsylvania.

The inference to be drawn from this history is very plain. Had Lucy X been placed in a suitable institution where she could have been a helpful member and passed a happy existence, finally passing away without issue, society would have been relieved of a tremendous burden and the State from the expenditure of an appalling sum, which it has spent and will be compelled to spend for years, for the maintenance of her miserable offspring.

This case is one of many similar cases which I could report had I the time, showing the importance of placing the feeble-minded under proper supervision.

As a rule the best results are obtained by placing the child in an institution devoted to the care, training, and treatment of this class of children. If kept at home with normal children the feeble-minded child is constantly reminded of his mental inferiority and of his inability to cope with normal intellects and is very likely to be subjected to ridicule and humiliation by the neighboring children who do not care to have him join in their play. Under these conditions, knowing he cannot accomplish the results attained by the children he sees around him, he no longer exerts himself, loses all ambition, becomes sullen, morose, and possibly vicious, often committing crimes which horrify the whole world.

When in a suitable institution he is on an equality with his associates; his teacher assigns lessons within his grasp; he finds he can accomplish what his teacher expects of him; he sees others make the same mistakes as himself, and possibly greater ones; he feels the exhilaration of rivalry and is stimulated to greater effort; he is trained to do those things which will be of greatest use to him in after life. Simple forms of amusement are provided for him and he leads a happy existence.

On entering the institution the child simply becomes a member of a congenial community; in surroundings adapted to his special needs; freed from all grave responsibilities of life which he is unable to meet. His entering the institution may be likened to an emigration to a new country where the conditions of life are more suited to his tastes and requirements. He associates with those of his own grade of intelligence; is lifted up and encouraged by those who appreciate his limitations. If capable, he is taught some useful employment and secures and takes pride in a standing in the community in which he feels he fills, and in which he possibly does fill, an important position.

Of what is the high grade imbecile deprived on entering a well-conducted institution? He is deprived of uncongenial associates; he is deprived of the privilege of being the butt of ridicule of the thoughtless and victim of the designing; he is deprived from giving way to temptations he has not the power to resist, and is deprived of the privilege of forming social relations, the responsibilities of which he cannot comprehend; he is deprived of the privilege of becoming the parent of unfit children.

We have abandoned the belief that school training can ever develop the feeble-minded into full and safe citizenship; however, this training is of the utmost importance as a preparation for the greatest amount of usefulness in after years. As the education of the normal child is preparatory to a participation in the activities of the great world, so the education of the feeble-minded child is preparatory to a participation in the activities of his limited sphere within an appropriate institution.

The feeble-minded child should enter an institution while the brain

is still in a condition of plasticity, before habits become strongly fixed; especially before the development of vicious tendencies. As a rule admission should not be delayed longer than the eighth year, and it is preferable that the child come under suitable training in the fifth or sixth year.

As children the feeble-minded are extremely persuadable and affectionate; they readily attach themselves to persons and surroundings. When once habituated to idleness, if children of the rich; or to a roving or street life, if children of the poor; or, if girls, when they become mothers, they are much more difficult to deal with. They miss the allurements of the world of which they have had a taste and are restless and uneasy.

Where it is evident the child is feeble-minded the interest of the child, the family, the community, and posterity are best conserved by facing the condition in his early years and placing him in an institution where these feeble ones may associate with each other, working and playing all their lives, children to the end—but happy, harmless children, instead of dangerous and degraded ones.

Mrs. Sue Willard, of Indiana, was called upon.

Mrs. WILLARD: I am on the program for a report on the school for incorrigible girls at Indiana; but I have no report. I have to report to the State Board every month, and our school is so small that our figures would seem very small here. But I would like to correct the idea that our girls are incorrigible. Sometimes they are a little wayward when we receive them, but we have handled 125 girls, and only five of them have proved incorrigible. I think the percentage is very small. We have some very nice girls in our school. Our girls are taken from homes where the mothers are not capable of training them and where they would go to destruction if left under their influence. We take them into the school from ten to fifteen, and the last few months have had two as young as six years old. We train them to do the work of the house, under the care of an excellent matron, and when they are not engaged with domestic duties we have a well-equipped school. We make it a family home. There is nothing about it that would indicate an institution. That is the reason we have our number limited to fifteen. We can accommodate seventeen. We have no iron-clad rules, but suit the rules to the individual girl. The matron is always with the girls in the kitchen, and we change their work every few days, and they seem very proud and happy. We charge \$1.50 a week board, and our school isn't entirely self-supporting. A friend of mine made the remark that figures never lie, but sometimes liars figure. Our expenses run about \$90 a month. The Superintendent is elected for life. She amuses herself. She doesn't get any salary. We have a large garden and raise nearly all our vegetables. And the girls are very proud of keeping the garden and yard in order.

I was asked to state the results of our school. We think the results are good. Some of our girls that go out command two or three dollars a week. One has just finished learning the dressmaking trade. We study the girl and see what she is best adapted to. We average about twelve girls, and would like to have the number up to seventeen. And we would like to have any of the Directors here send their girls to us.

We had a girl from Warren—one of her parents was in the insane asylum at Warren. This girl had a very high temper, and two or three times a day would throw herself on the floor in a kind of hysteria. She gave us a great deal of trouble. We got very tired of her, and one day she had three of these spells, and the doctor told her if she took any more he would be obliged to shave her back hair off and put a fly blister on,



and she said to me: "Just cut my head off!" But she never had any more "spells."

I hope you will excuse my remarks. Mrs. Lindsey will continue my talk.

Mrs. LINDSEY (Warren): As a sequel to Mrs. Willard's account I would say that girl was finally brought back to Warren, and the first thing she told me was that she was homesick for the Industrial School and that she never loved any one as she did Mrs. Willard. I asked her if she could do exactly as she wished what she would prefer to do, and she said to go back to the Industrial School and live there until she died. She is now employed at a hotel and gets \$2.50 a week. And they tell me there that they have never had a better assistant than this girl. She is perfectly happy, and she attributes the most of it to her time passed in this industrial school. [Applause.]

Mrs. Blood, of Brookville, is called for.

Mrs. BLOOD: I have nothing to say about this school, only that it is the best thing of the kind I ever saw. We have a Superintendent who gives her time and her strength to the school, and we are all pleased. [Applause.]

Mr. Colborn was called for and responded as follows:

I see a number of the Children's Aid Society of Somerset present and they can speak for themselves. I can testify most heartily to the noble work of the Children's Aid Society in our community. I am very much pleased to state that our good Directors of the Poor have the confidence of the Children's Aid Society, and they co-operate in perfect harmony. In fact, their work is so divided that the Children's Aid Society takes care of the children, and the Directors of the Poor are relieved of that responsibility.

The Directors of the Poor have rented a house in town, with a good matron, and the Children's Aid Society has the entire control of it, and all children committed to the care of the Directors of the Poor are sent to the Children's Home. They stay there until the Aid Society can place them in good homes. They are faithful in their visitations, and I know that they investigate thoroughly every home before placing a child, and if complaints are brought to them they immediately investigate them.

Each week the society appoints two of their number to visit this home and look after it, and they always have applications for children from the people of the county.

I know something of the work of the Children's Aid Society in western Pennsylvania, and I know they are doing a noble work. The education of the children is the hope of the country. I cannot speak too highly of the work of the Children's Aid Society in this county, and I know my good Board of Directors will bear me out in this. And I want to say to all the Directors present that if they co-operate, as our board does here, with the Children's Aid Society, they will be relieved of a great deal of annoyance and responsibility. Monthly bills are reported to the Directors of the Poor. They have the children boarded for a dollar a week and whatever clothing, in addition to that, is needed. The children remain at the home but a short time, and I think last year the expenses for maintaining children was but \$462, so you can judge of the efficiency of the Children's Aid Society in Somerset. I think they have cared for 185 children.

On petition, the Court appointed the Children's Aid Society a Visiting Committee to visit the delinquent children of the county, at the expense of the county; and they have been performing that service and will make a report at the end of the year to the Court, who, the law says, shall approve their bills, and they will be paid by the county.

I can only compliment this work very highly.

Mrs. LINDSEY (Warren): I think that every Children's Aid Society should have identified with it a capable, whole-souled lawyer, and, while I am not depreciating the efforts or abilities of the ladies of Somerset,



I think that what has been done here is largely due to the assistance rendered by Mr. Colborn.

The following paper was first assigned to Hon. John Fulton, member of the State Board of Health, and was referred by him to Dr. Benjamin Lee, Secretary of said board. In the absence of Dr. Lee the paper was read to the Convention by Mr. Colborn, and was as follows:

## The Relative Duties of State, County, and Township Officials and Labor Contractors in the Control of Epidemics of Smallpox or Other Contagious Disease in the State of Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, Members of the Poor Directors' Association of Pennsylvania, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I consider myself exceptionally favored in being permitted to appear before you, fellow-workers in the great cause of humanity, men to whom your constituents have assigned the sacred duty of caring for the poor, God's poor, in your respective communities. To consider you worthy to occupy this position your neighbors must have reposed confidence in your intelligence, your integrity, and your humanity. In your intelligence, that you might judiciously discriminate between worthy objects of charity and lazy beggars; in your integrity, as having charge of the disbursement of a considerable portion of the public funds, and in your humanity, that you may be inspired with a warm-hearted zeal for the relief of suffering and a desire to afford this relief in such a manner as least to wound the feelings and injure the self-respect of the recipients. These are duties of an exalted character and demand the exercise of a high degree of ability and discretion.

You and I, at least many of you, have during the past three years been brought into somewhat close relations and frequent correspondence. The cause, as you know but too well, has been the prevalence of that loathsome and much-dreaded disease, smallpox, throughout the length and breadth of the Commonwealth, and when my attention was called to the fact that your Committee of Arrangements had with great wisdom placed upon the program the following subject: "The Epidemic of Smallpox; What Reciprocity Arrangements Should and Can Be Adopted Between the Several Counties and States in Caring for Non-Resident Smallpox Patients? What Remedy Should Be Adopted for Our Relief Where a Contractor Brings Laborers Into a County and They Become Afflicted with the Disease and Become a Charge on the Poor District?" I felt that an opportunity offered for an interchange of views on these important questions which ought not to be neglected. I beg you, however, not to suppose that I came to pose as a Solomon, primed with answers to these different problems. I may as well state, indeed, at the outset, that, with the legislation at present existing, some of them are to-day incapable of solution. All the more reason, you will say, and justly, that they should be carefully and fully discussed from every point of view. As your able Corresponding Secretary has said in correspondence on the subject, "These questions have vexed the authorities, there being no especial law to meet them." An experience of sixteen years in dealing with these conditions has naturally led me to study them somewhat carefully. I have found constant friction between county, municipal, and township officials, seriously embarrassing and retarding public work and leading to frequent and often expensive litigation. Inquiry in other States has led me to conclude that this evil exists to a greater extent in our own State than elsewhere. To what are we to attribute it? To answer this question I will ask your indulgence if I imitate the distinguished jurist who has recently visited this part of the State as the Republican candidate for Governor and introduce a reference to "ancient history."

William Penn, as will probably be generally admitted, stood not so much for the right of self-government as for liberty of conscience and freedom of worship. He was an aristocrat, and all the adventurous spirits who come over with him to take possession of the immense domain over which the king had established him as ruler, or who followed in his wake,

were aristocrats. These great proprietaries, many of them of so-called noble birth, partitioned out among themselves the broad acres and immense forests of this sylvan paradise and aimed at little but their own aggrandizement. Each was lord and master over his own domain. It did not at all enter into their scheme that each little group of retainers, redemptioners, bondsmen, and petty landholders should establish its own little Legislature and control its own affairs. Hence it followed that, while in other colonies whose political organization was modeled by an entirely different and more democratic class of immigrants, the township immediately become self-governing, the unit, so to speak, of governmental administration, no such power was conferred upon the people of the several townships in this State. Here the county was the smallest territorial subdivision which was allowed its own governing body or its own officials, save for the purpose of taxation. The characteristics thus impressed upon the State by its early settlers remains until the present time. Not until the 28th day of April, 1899, did the Legislature of Pennsylvania make it possible for the people of a township to exercise the right of self-government in its fullest sense, and not until the 12th of February, 1900, was there a single self-governing township in the State. One reason why we Pennsylvanians have been so slow in insisting on our rights in this matter is probably because we are so good that we can get along without government. I am heartily in accord with the Republican candidate in his belief that there are no better, more God-fearing, law-abiding, righteous-living communities in the world than are to be found within the limits of this noble Commonwealth. Almost without exception the movements of population which resulted in the settlement of the various sections of the State were inspired by religious enthusiasm, and those who participated in them, seeking the protection of the broad banner of religious freedom, however wide apart their peculiar tenets, were as one in their reverence for the living God, their strict observance of the laws of their adopted country, for the assurance of justice between man and man, and their ready sympathy for the poor and needy. But for this fact we never could have got along as well as we have with our lax system of government.

However we may explain it, the fact remains that the condition of our rural districts and villages is one of chaos. "What is everybody's business is nobody's business," and so, when an emergency of any kind arises calling for prompt action and the expenditure of money, the effort of each individual, board, or official, County Commissioner, Poor Director, School Director, Road Supervisor, Assessor, or what not—is to throw the burden on some other board or official and worm out of the duty of assuming it itself. The remedy for this unfortunate condition would seem to be very simple; namely, to have the Act of April 28, A. D. 1899, extended to all townships and made compulsory. It should probably be made somewhat more comprehensive in its assignment of powers, and should include the right to levy taxes for sanitary as well as for all other purposes essential to the well-being of a prosperous and self-respecting community. By this means there would always be money in the township treasury to meet the emergencies due to the outbreak of epidemics.

Just as four or more townships may by law unite to erect a poor-house, so four or more townships might unite to erect a contagious disease hospital—not, let me say, a pesthouse. If there is any one expression which is full of horror, terror, and loathing, it is pesthouse! No Poor Director should ever allow it to pass his lips. Many a poor sufferer who would gladly go to a municipal, a township, a contagious disease, or an emergency hospital will crawl into a hole and die rather than be taken to a pesthouse. If we ever get the true pest, the bubonic plague, in this country, which may heaven forbid, we may need pesthouses, but not until then. The great advantage of having a small number of townships unite in the erection of a hospital for such cases, rather than to have one large hospital for each county, is that the hospital would be easily accessible for all those who are attacked. The courts have decided (*Kelly vs. Union*, 5, W. & S. 535, 1843) that "it is not permitted to remove a pauper (to the almshouse or elsewhere) while the state of his health forbids it." Now it constantly happens that a patient ill with smallpox or diphtheria might have his life endangered by driving all across a county, while no such risk would be incurred in transporting him a few miles. With such refuges as this scattered through the

county, epidemics would be rid of half their terror, the authorities would know exactly what to do, and panics such as have occurred throughout this State for the past few years, and indeed are still occurring every week, would be a thing of the past.

But until this happy condition can be inaugurated, how can such emergencies be met and how shall the very serious expenses which they entail be borne? The authority for the establishment of quarantine outside of cities and boroughs, lies first with the school board of the townships, and secondly, if that body fails in the discharge of this important duty, with the State Board of Health. But quarantine means money, and often a great deal of money—first, in the majority of cases, for the employment of guards; secondly, for the medical and nursing care of the sick, and thirdly, for furnishing the necessaries of life. Persons who are in good circumstances can and should meet all of these expenses except the wages of guards. You can scarcely expect a man to pay for employing a man to keep guard over himself. The key to the situation consists, so far as the other expenses are concerned, in considering all quarantined persons who are dependent on their wages or their daily labor for their support, as, technically speaking, paupers for the time being; made so by the authorities for the protection of the public, and by no fault of their own, but none the less paupers. Every duty, every responsibility which the law imposes on Directors or Overseers for the care and oversight of paupers must be considered as equally binding for the care and oversight of quarantined persons, whether such persons have legal settlement in the county or township in which they may be when they are found to be affected with or to have been exposed to the contagious disease or not. In the latter case the provisions of the law (May 21, 1874, P. L. 220, S5,) will hold good with one exception, namely, that the limitation of the "charges incurred for the care of said patient" to one dollar (\$1) per day will not hold good. The law says that all "reasonable charges" shall be paid by the authorities of the district in which such sick person has a legal settlement, and it is quite out of the bounds of possibility or of reason to expect that the expenses incurred for parties in quarantine, especially on account of smallpox, shall be limited to one dollar per day.

The only item of expense remaining to be considered is that of employing guards, and that is often quite a serious item. The law authorizes the school board to appoint a sanitary agent and to fix his salary, with the approval of the Court. This officer would have general supervision of the management of the quarantine, as does a Health Officer in a borough. Whether a Judge would consider himself authorized to name a salary sufficient for the sanitary agent to employ and pay guards out of it is doubtful. This is the only use which the school board is authorized to make of the school fund for sanitary purposes except the sanitary care of schoolhouses and the outhouses connected with them. The only other authority which to my mind would have power to disburse funds for this purpose is the Board of County Commissioners, and as the enforcement of quarantine is designed not simply for the protection of the village or township in which the contagion exists, but for that of the entire county, it is no more than simple justice that the county should bear the expense of its maintenance. That I am not alone in this opinion, I beg leave to demonstrate by quoting that of a distinguished Attorney-General of the Commonwealth, which is as follows:

"Ordinarily, the County Commissioners and the Directors of the Poor might, in my judgment, with entire safety take upon themselves the responsibility and expense of providing for the necessary measures to protect the public health, and where it is threatened by infectious or contagious diseases, I am of the opinion that it would not be an unwise stretch of their authority. I am of the opinion that in most cases they, in consultation with the County Solicitor and District Attorney, and acting in consultation with local courts, can provide for any emergencies that may arise.

"W. U. HENSEL, Attorney-General."

But it may be said, and with some force, that not only the county, but the entire State is interested and benefited by the maintenance of the local quarantine, and that therefore the State should assume its share of the burden. In point of fact, the State Legislature did, as long ago as 1889, establish an Emergency Fund, on which the State Board of Health, with the consent of the Governor, the Auditor-General, and the State



Treasurer, could draw for the purpose of aiding comparatively indigent communities in sparsely populated districts in meeting the tremendous expenses which an epidemic suddenly imposes. By the prompt and judicious use of a comparatively small portion of this fund in the years 1899 and 1900 the board succeeded in entirely stamping out the epidemic of smallpox then prevailing so that not a single case was reported for several months. Unfortunately, the Legislature of 1901 cut off this fund, thus leaving the State Board absolutely powerless to render assistance save in the way of instruction and advice. The result has been that the disease, having been reintroduced, has been steadily spreading until 5,818 cases, with 260 deaths, have occurred, and at the present time it is increasing with accelerated rapidity. In the month of June 242 cases were reported; in July, 261 cases; in August, 313 cases, and in September, 533 cases. As smallpox is a disease of cold weather, it will readily be comprehended that the outlook for the coming winter is not reassuring. I trust, therefore, that the intelligent members of this Association will second our board in its efforts to induce the Legislature to re-enact the law of 1899, appropriating a fund of at least \$50,000 for this important purpose without restrictions. Unreasoning and unreasonable economy in fighting smallpox is false economy of the falsest kind. It is saving at the spigot while wasting at the bung-hole. Assistance rendered by the State in such emergencies is not charity. It is simply using the State's money for the protection of the State by stamping out the fires of contagion as promptly as possible after their discovery. If the State Board of Health had still been allowed the use of this fund it would have had its inspectors constantly traveling through every county and would have discovered every case promptly and corralled it immediately. Men who are employed in fighting epidemics are taking their lives in their hands and should be well paid and promptly paid for such hazardous service.

As regards the question of interstate comity, if the law regarding the expenses incurred for paupers without legal settlement is not sufficient, it is possible that the aid of the newly-created "Public Health Service of the United States" might be invoked to adjust such claims, although as this is a matter not so much of protection of the public health as of reimbursement for local expenditures it may be considered that it should properly go into the United States Courts. The question is a simple one and should present no serious difficulty.

The problem of meeting the expenses of caring for the victims of contagious disease in contractors' camps is one of more difficulty. At this moment no solution can be offered. I have therefore drafted a regulation which I shall present to the State Board of Health at its next meeting with a view of meeting this serious want. I will tax your patience so far as to ask your attention in order that should suggestions of amendment occur to any of you I may have the benefit of them. If it meets your approval I should be glad if you would express the same by a vote. If you consider that it would be advisable for the Legislature to formulate and adopt an act on the same lines, I should also value an expression of opinion on that point.

Allow me again to express my sense of the honor conferred upon me in being permitted to meet you and my earnest hope that this conference may result in smoothing away many of the difficulties which have been so vexatious to us all.

Proposed Regulations for the Better Protection of the Public Health, to Limit the Spread of Epidemic (Contagious or Infectious) Diseases from Industrial Camps, and for the Sanitary Construction, Management, and Control of such Camps.

The number of persons employed in industrial camps of various kinds in the State of Pennsylvania amounts to many thousands. These persons are for the most part not citizens of the district in which they are temporarily located, or even of the State, and have no legal domicile. They consider themselves amenable only to the contractors, operators, or companies which are employing them. All past experience shows that camps of this kind are often disease breeders and the experience of the past three years has demonstrated them to be frequent centers of infection, especially of smallpox.

In this way they have not only brought disease and death to our communities, but have imposed serious pecuniary burdens on townships already impoverished. It is therefore, in the opinion of the State Board



of Health, not unreasonable to expect that capitalists introducing bodies or irresponsible persons into the State or any part of the same for temporary occupation shall be responsible for their obedience to sanitary regulations and for any expense incurred by reason of the occurrence of contagious diseases among them.

And therefore, in virtue of the powers conferred by the Act of Assembly of June 3, 1885, Sections 5 and 6, P. L. 56, of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, be it ordered by the State Board of Health and Vital Statistics of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and it is hereby ordered by authority of the same that—

Regulation 1. The owner, manager, agent, or foreman of any lumbering camp, mining camp, sawmill camp, railway construction camp, or other industry requiring the establishment of a camp, shall be responsible for the proper execution and enforcement of any regulation herein contained, or of any clause of any health regulation governing in any case or circumstance.

Regulation 2. Any house, tent, or other dwelling occupied by the employees engaged in any industry shall contain at least 300 cubic feet of air space for every occupant thereof. In order to accommodate fifty men, therefore, a building should be fifty feet long, thirty feet broad, and ten feet high. It shall further be provided with such means of ventilation as hereinafter set forth or other equally effective method. The floor of every dwelling shall be constructed of boards or planks or other material equally suitable for the purpose, raised on supports at least one foot from the ground, and so made that it shall be tight. Every such dwelling, other than a temporary tent not exceeding 10 by 15 feet, shall be supplied with adequate lighting, and in all wooden or iron structures the windows must be so constructed that they can be opened.

Regulation 3. The method of ventilation of every dwelling in which a stove or furnace is used shall be such as will provide fresh air to the extent of that supplied in the following example designed for a building to accommodate fifty men: When heated by an oblong stove or inclosed furnace the stovepipe should be carried to an opening or openings in the roof, as in the subjoined cut, both to distribute heat and to assist in ventilation. The fresh air duct, with free opening into the fresh air, may be constructed of either wood or galvanized iron, but must be iron beneath the stove and have a capacity of not less than one foot square. The rear part of the stove should be inclosed in galvanized iron or zinc, resting on the floor, the fresh air being delivered under this part of the stove to be warmed as it passes into the room. The exits for foul air may be constructed either of wood or galvanized iron, should be open near the floor, as seen in the diagram attached hereto, and should consist of four ducts, each having an area of not less than six inches square leading to the space surrounding the stovepipe near its exit and properly protected against fire. The temperature of the room should be maintained at from 60 degrees to 65 degrees Fah., and a large shallow pan supplied with water shall be kept on the stove to supply moisture to the air.

Regulation 4. In connection with every camp, works, or dwelling coming under these regulations in which more than ten persons are employed there shall be constructed a contagious disease hospital large enough to accommodate at least one-tenth of the full number of employees, or in lieu thereof a double-walled tent or tents shall be kept on hand with proper flooring and with facilities for heating and ventilation equal to those provided in the example herein described, for the reception of any employees who may become sick; and should any disease of a contagious nature, as defined by the Act of June 18, 1895, "For the Better Protection of the Public Health in the Several Municipalities of this Commonwealth," break out, the hospital building or tent must be located, by the physician in charge of the patient, in a position satisfactory to the County Medical Inspector or any officer authorized by the State Board of Health to inspect the said camp or works.

Regulation 5. Every camp shall be equipped with a separate building to be used as a washhouse or laundry, and attached thereto a room, or, if preferred, a separate building or tent equipped with a stove and tubs for bath purposes, in a manner satisfactory to any officer authorized to inspect the camp or works.

Regulation 6. Every camp shall be supplied with a building or tent

properly constructed and set apart as a kitchen or cookhouse, and having a dining room or eating room in connection therewith, with proper conveniences for the cleanliness and comfort of employees.

Regulation 7. Proper buckets shall always be kept on hand in which all refuse, whether liquid or solid, can be placed, and the refuse must at regular times be removed to a safe distance from the kitchen, and be so deposited as not to create a nuisance or contaminate the drinking water. A properly-constructed drainage system satisfactory to the County Medical Inspector or other authorized officer may be utilized in lieu of slop buckets.

Regulation 8. Latrines or earth or other closets, located to the satisfaction of the physician employed, shall be constructed at every camp or works, and must be located and maintained in a sanitary condition satisfactory to the medical officer of the works, especial care being taken that the contents thereof or drainage therefrom shall enter no stream, lake, or pond.

Regulation 9. The stables in connection with any works or camps must be so located as to not contaminate the water supply of the camp or of any neighboring community, and must not be less than 125 feet distant from any dwelling or kitchen. In large camps this distance may be increased if thought necessary by the County Medical Inspector or other authorized health officer.

Regulation 10. The location of the buildings of any camp shall be made with a due regard to its healthfulness, and any new camp or works located without the previous approval of the authorized health inspector must be moved to a proper location, if afterward the site is found to be undrained, unhealthy, or wanting in any adequate or wholesome water supply, and any camp, works, or dwelling, if proved unsanitary or unhealthful, shall have instituted such drainage or have introduced such a water supply as is satisfactory to the authorized health officer.

Regulation 11. Employers of labor in industrial camps shall contract with one or more qualified medical practitioners for the medical and sanitary supervision of their employees and works, who shall inspect the camps, dwellings, or works at least once a month, and oftener if the health conditions of any camp, works, or dwelling require it, and supply medical attendance and medicines to the employees.

Regulation 12. The owner, manager, agent or foreman, or other person in charge of any lumbering camp, mining camp, or other industry on which men are employed shall require a certificate of recent successful vaccination of each employee when he is engaged by the company or its agent; and where evidence is not forthcoming it shall be their duty before employing any person to obtain such evidence of vaccination.

Regulation 13. Should any suspected communicable disease, as defined under the Act of June 18, 1895, "For the Better Protection of the Public Health in the Several Municipalities of this Commonwealth," break out in any camp, works, or dwelling, the employer or his employee or agent in charge of any camp, works, or dwelling shall immediately send notice to the physician employed, who shall at once notify the State Board of Health or some officer thereof of the outbreak. The employer or his employee or agent in charge of any camp, works, or dwelling shall, equally with the physician employed, be responsible for any neglect to notify the State health authorities.

Regulation 14. Every measure required to be taken by a local board of health or by any medical health officer, sanitary inspector, or other health officer under the Act of June 18, 1895, or any regulation made thereunder by the State or Township Board of Health, must at once be taken by the employer and his employees or agents, or the physician employed by the same, whenever any suspected communicable disease included therein breaks out in any camp, works, or dwelling to which these regulations apply. Any neglect on the part of any employer, manager, foreman or agent, or the physician employed shall be punishable in the manner provided by the Act of June 18, 1895.

Regulation 15. For the proper enforcement of these regulations the Secretary of the State Board of Health or the County Medical Inspector or the Sanitary Agent of the township, on notification by the owner or his duly-constituted agent or foreman of the contemplated establishment of any camp or works, shall, at the earliest practicable time thereafter,

inspect the location of the camp, works, or dwelling, and carry out the true intent and meaning of these regulations in relation thereto.

Regulation 16. Whenever complaint is made to the State Board of Health by ten responsible householders, or by a County Medical Inspector, or by a Township Board of Health, that, owing to failure to comply with these regulations, a nuisance prejudicial to the public health exists in any camp, works, or dwelling to which these regulations apply, or that the requirements of the law of June 18, 1895, for preventing the spread of contagious diseases are not strictly enforced, the Secretary of said board shall make or cause to be made an inspection to determine the truth of such complaint, and if the same be found true, shall take the necessary steps to enforce these regulations. The expense of all inspections, whether made by the Secretary of the State Board of Health, by the County Medical Inspector, or by the Sanitary Agent of the township; whether made in response to a complaint or by request of the owner or agent of the camp, and the expense of maintaining quarantine and of providing medical and nursing care and the necessaries of life for those in quarantine, shall be met by the owner of the camp or by his agent.

BENJAMIN F. LEE,  
Secretary State Board of Health.

Mr. L. C. Colborn introduced two resolutions (as to smallpox), and Mr. J. S. Strine, of Lancaster, moved that they be referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Mr. Strine's motion was agreed to and the resolutions referred to said committee.

(See Report of Committee on Resolutions for these resolutions.)

The Convention here adjourned until 1:30 p. m. to meet at Highland Inn.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

### Held at the Highland Inn.

Convention called to order by President Gould.

Rev. C. F. Gebhart read a paper, "Shall the Curfew Ring at Night?" prefacing it with the following:

Two gentlemen from the Island of Erin were going along a street in sunny England, and one of them, looking ahead of him as they approached the brow of a hill, espied the great tower of the village and he says: "We are nigh unto the church. We will seat ourselves on the steps and rest for a while." As they came to the village they inquired of one of the burghers: "What is the meaning of this tower? I thought it was a church spire, but behold it looks more like a chimney, but it is capped over and has a bell in it. We cannot understand it." The burgher said: "This is the curfew which we have erected here." And Mike says to his neighbor: "Pat, they must think a great deal of their dogs." "Oh, a couple of your dogs have died and you have erected a monument to them?" And the answer was: "It isn't that; but for those feeble in intellect and unable to understand what we say we have erected this and call it a curfew, and we make use of it." And the Irishman said: "I thought it was a pair of dogs that had died."

Mr. Gebhart here read the following paper, which was received with applause:

### Shall Curfew Ring at Night?

Curfew—cover fire; French—from covrir, cover, and feu fire; to cover fire; Latin—from focus, hearth.

Under the feudal law a bell rung every evening as a signal to the people to extinguish or cover all fires and retire for rest. It was introduced into England by William the Conqueror (1087), most probably as a safeguard against fire, but it was regarded by the English as a badge of



servitude. The original time for ringing it was 8 o'clock p. m., but sometimes 'twas rung at 9 p. m. "Well, 'tis 9 o'clock; 'tis time to ring curfew."

From Shakespeare, in "Romeo and Juliet," we learn that the bell commonly used to ring the curfews obtained in time the name of the curfew bell, and was so called when rung on any occasion.

"Come, stir, stir, stir, the second cock hath crowed,  
The curfew bell hath rung, 'tis 3 o'clock."

In a few places the custom is still kept up of ringing a bell at 9 o'clock p. m., and the old name is retained. In Scotland it was rung as late as 9 a. m., an hour which was changed to 10 p. m., at the solicitation of James Stewart, favorite of James VI.

Again a bell still rung in some old European towns in continuation of an ancient custom, but without retaining its ancient meaning:

"There rang out the hour of 9, the village curfew, and straightway

Rose the guests and departed and silence reigned in the household."

—Longfellow, in "Evangeline."

The tower, the bell, the ringing, the hour, were called curfew; the covering for fires was called curfew, and the reasons assigned for taking this precaution were somewhat various.

One of these was that William the Conqueror deemed it proper to have the fires, which were generally made in the sand, covered, so that sparks might not be scattered by the wind or by the slight combustion that occurs with certain kinds of wood, like the hemlock, amidst the tents or booths, huts or shacks, making up the villages and towns, and thus saving them from the conflagrations that had been so numerous in all Europe in those times.

Another reason assigned was that all should retire for the night, and that the guards or police, finding any persons wandering abroad or having fires aflame after curfew rang at night, should arrest them and have them imprisoned and punished.

It was deemed that better order could be maintained by having a law of this kind enforced as much as possible.

Yet William the Conqueror was not the first to introduce this custom amongst the people of his realm, but he did have the matter rigidly enforced because it savored of bettering the condition of his subjects and was an aid in governing the Saxons. And this custom materially bettered the condition of the people, which they came to realize by and by, and they gradually fell into line of obeying this edict, for it saved their homes from fire and robbery and likely their lives, they believed.

But some of the rulers on the Continent of Europe had compelled this practice long before the time of this monarch.

One nation after another came to practice the use of the curfew and assigned various reasons for so doing. Writers have lauded the practice and poets have written it in poetic fancy, telling how it also called to prayer the devotees in religion.

Grey's *Eligy* mentions beautifully how "Curfew tolls the knell of parting day," and we read with a thrill of admiration the flow in fancy from the pen of that author. "Curfew Shall Not Ring To-night" is another beautiful poem, telling how the writer saw in vision a young maid saving the life of her lover.

The artist has painted on canvas the idea in his mind and given us the man and woman with the hoe in the field bowing their heads at the sound of the evening bell, calling to prayer.

Were we to trace still further the reasons given for the tolling of the curfew bell at eventide or in the night, we could find that rules or laws varied in the several ancient countries regarding the use of the tocsin.

Indeed the uses were as varied  
As the people oft themselves;  
One said, "Ring it when I'm buried,"  
Some, "Ring it for the elves."

This ancient custom has not been forgotten by those of modern times. In our country the curfew has found a foothold, and the early fathers coming—



From the Old World to the new  
 Brought along the old curfew,  
 And established it, with sentinel grit,  
 And kept it well in view.

It served well in the personage of the guard about the palisades of the early Massachusetts, Connecticut, Virginia, and Pennsylvania settlements, who cried, "Past 12 o'clock." It found a herald in some church bell, or night call, or sounding bar struck by a hammer. Its meaning was understood by the burghers.

The curfew idea can be arranged for our modern times to the welfare of society, more especially for the welfare of boys and girls in towns.

For instance, boys up to the age of fifteen or sixteen years may be regarded as needing careful attention that they be taught to walk upright in demeanor and conduct. If they are allowed to roam according to their own sweet will at night they will fall into bad company, and so likely into bad habits, and become sloths, drunkards, gamblers, robbers, and criminals, and learn the dark deeds of wickedness practiced in the night. The result is—inmates of dens of evil, thence to prison, penitentiary, and gibbet. Boys would better be at home by 8 or 9 o'clock, and the village curfew should remind the heady one so. Fathers and mothers desire them there.

Girls of tender age need careful attention. They should be guarded by their parents, and the public in general involuntarily takes an interest in them. Yet individuals impure and indecent lie in wait to entrap and cause their downfall in character, life, and person. Their tender-heartedness is imposed upon, and their lives may soon be blasted by the sleek prowler in the dark.

Should they become street-walkers or visitors to the dark-deed places of vice at night they will surely become reprobate in character, a source of misery to themselves, and a sad spectacle to the community. Curfew might call them in and the guardsmen might see that the obstinate wanderers are checked in their downward course. How oft the inquiry is made, "Where is my boy or girl to-night?"

The general good of the young people demands something akin to curfew, at least, and certain towns, as Westminster, Md.; Titusville, and other places, think the curfew a great benefit to their young.

Other points might be added, but the order is brevity in these papers and essays and we must heed.

Perhaps curfew might be used in calling a halt on the drunkard prowling about. Perhaps on the new woman neglecting her home. Perhaps on intemperance, if people would only try. Perhaps on the dens of vice and crime that entice men and women, boys and girls, alluring them into paths that are wicked and practices that ruin body and soul.

This Associate Board of Charities is doing a timely curfew work by sounding the tocsin of alarm regarding many errors of this age and seeking to save many persons from being consumed by the fires of remorse and eternal ruin. Well may Jesus' words be quoted, "Inasmuch as ye do it unto the least of these, mine own, ye do it unto me." Any work along such lines is commendable.

Shall the curfew ring at night,  
 For boys and girls, what say you?  
 Shall it ring at 8 aright,  
 Warning the hour right to you?  
 Tender age needs elder's care,  
 Tender minds need nurture;  
 Tender lives need mother's rare  
 Watch guard for the future.  
 Shall they roam at will at night,  
 Through the streets a-roving;  
 Run at large with all their might,  
 Learn dark tricks a-going?  
 Ring the curfew, call them in,  
 At the hour designed,  
 Have them saved from dark-shade sin,  
 Their mothers feel so minded.  
 Boys make men, and girls will grow

To the stature woman,  
It will help them—well, just so,  
Ring the curfew for them.

The Chair appointed the following Legislative Committee: S. W. Davenport, Luzerne; R. D. McGonnigle, Allegheny; J. W. Barker, Delaware; Frederick Fuller, Lackawanna; P. H. Bridenbaugh, Blair.

Mr. DAVENPORT: It seems to me there ought to be another one added to that Committee on Legislation. I know of no one belonging to this Association who is more experienced in legislation than our honored President, and I would move that he be added to that committee.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Barker and put to vote by Mr. Davenport: That Hon. E. P. Gould, of Erie, be added to the Legislative Committee as Chairman.

The motion was agreed to.

The report of the Committee on Officers was here announced by Mr. Barker, Chairman, and was read to the Convention, as follows:

President—H. W. Greybill, Lancaster.

Vice Presidents—John H. McDowell, Montgomery; Noah Waidly, Erie; Thomas J. Hughes, Cambria; Frank E. Sharpless, Delaware; George H. Smith, Somerset; J. H. Oplinger, Luzerne; E. E. Allshouse, Westmoreland; Mrs. F. W. Biesecker, Somerset; Mrs. E. S. Lindsey, Warren.

Secretary—W. P. Hunker, Allegheny.

Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer—L. C. Colborn, Somerset.

Honorary Secretary—R. D. McGonnigle, Allegheny.

The report as presented contained the name of S. W. Davenport.

Mr. DAVENPORT (Luzerne): I desire to withdraw my name and substitute the\* name of J. H. Oplinger, of Luzerne.

The report of the Committee on Officers is adopted, with the change suggested—Mr. Oplinger in place of Mr. Davenport.

President Gould: It has been thought best by some, and I submit the matter to you, as to whether it shall be left to the officers for the ensuing year to select their own Program Committee, or to continue the old method and elect them.

Mr. MACKIN (Luzerne): I move you that the newly-elected officers, acting in conjunction with the Lancaster delegates, select the Program Committee, or have the power to act as a Program Committee.

The motion of Mr. Mackin is seconded and agreed to.

Mr. B. F. Madore (Bedford), Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, submitted the following report:

### Report of Committee on Resolutions.

WHEREAS, The rapid increase in population has brought increased responsibilities upon the charitable institutions of our State; and,

WHEREAS, The duties devolving upon those engaged in the work are performed in a faithful and Christian-like manner, and the results of this work demand the unstinted praise of the public; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we congratulate the Association upon the attendance at this, the twenty-eighth annual meeting, and the interest manifested in each session is worthy of special commendation.

RESOLVED, That this Association is duly grateful to the County Commissioners of Somerset County for the comforts of the courthouse.

RESOLVED, That the members of the Association extend to the Committee of Arrangements, Directors of the Poor of Somerset County, the Children's Aid Society, and to the citizens of Somerset gen-

erally, our sincere thanks for the kindly welcome and generous hospitality which we have received and enjoyed.

RESOLVED, That we give unlimited praise to our worthy Corresponding Secretary for his arrangement of the program, his faithful performance of the many and varied duties devolving upon him, his untiring efforts to make this meeting of the Association a decided success, and the result of his efforts in the musical entertainment furnished, as well as the prompt response from so many on the program, shows that he enjoys the confidence and esteem of not only the citizens of Somerset, but of every member of this Association. We go away with pleasant recollections of Somerset.

RESOLVED, That the Association is under obligations to the Somerset "Herald," Somerset "Standard," and Somerset "Democrat" for the kindly notices and reports of the meetings.

RESOLVED, That special mention is due the musical college for their musical entertainment, and we assure those who assisted that we highly appreciated their presence.

RESOLVED, That the members of this Association are under special obligations to the officers who have so faithfully given their time toward the care and comfort of the unfortunate poor, for their very acts indicate that they are prompted by high and noble motives.

RESOLVED, That the Committee on Legislation be urged to frame a bill for the establishment of a colony for epileptics by the State, and that earnest efforts be made to secure its adoption at the next session of the Legislature. And we further recommend Somerset as a suitable, healthful, and desirable location.

RESOLVED, That in view of the continued prevalence of smallpox throughout the State and the want of funds in the hands of the State Board of Health with which to properly safeguard the public from the spread of this dread disease, we urge upon our representatives at Harrisburg the necessity of placing an adequate emergency fund in the hands of the State Board of Health for such purpose. We, therefore, request of the Legislature the re-establishing of the emergency fund as it originally stood at \$50,000, to remain in the treasury until exhausted.

RESOLVED, That inasmuch as most of the epidemics of smallpox in many of the communities of the State have come from camps of various purposes, and frequently none of them citizens of the county or State in which said camps are located, and the burden and expense falls upon said county or poor district, we therefore urge upon the Legislature to make appropriation of a sufficient amount of money to pay the expenses of such epidemic of contagious disease and require the contractor who imports such a class of people into a county or poor district from without the district to make suitable provisions for their care and treatment while sick and in quarantine as is necessary and just, under a penalty on failure to do so.

Mr. BARKER: It seems to me that we might discuss that smallpox question somewhat. I move that all but the last two resolutions be adopted.

Mr. OCHSE: There is a resolution in regard to the selection of this building, recommending that it be purchased by the State. We might discuss that. I desire to have that excepted from the general resolutions.

Mr. BARKER: I accept that amendment.

The motion of Mr. Barker, as amended by Mr. Ochse, is agreed to and adopted.

President GOULD: If any one desires to discuss the smallpox resolutions there is now an opportunity.

JAMES MOORE (Cambria): This is a matter I brought up about three years ago. I then suggested that the School Directors be made officers of the quarantine and take charge of those cases and present their bill to the County Commissioners. They had no right to pay it themselves, and the County Commissioners would pay it, and the Directors of the Poor, if they were indigent persons, would furnish the provisions for the cases. I had a terrible time with one case and I consulted



the physician of the State Board of Health as to what to do. I was assured that the School Directors would pay it and I engaged a man to watch the quarantined house at \$2 a day. The Secretary of the School Board approved that and in fifteen days I paid the man, and it went on fifteen days more and the School Board met and refused to pay any more and I had to pay it—\$60. I think some law should be passed whereby some provision be made for such cases.

Mr. DAVENPORT (Luzerne): I think we have a law at present pertaining to this matter. School boards have the right to organize boards of health, and in times of an epidemic they are the only constituted authorities to look after quarantine and take charge of smallpox cases. In first, second, and third-class cities the laws provide for the organization of boards of health, and in times of epidemic they have the absolute jurisdiction and right of quarantine and to make police regulations and all that. And the municipality must pay the bills. And that same rule pertains to boroughs. They have the right, under the Act of 1893, I think, to organize boards of health, and in times of epidemic they have control over smallpox cases, and in townships the school boards have that right. I don't think the Directors of the Poor have much jurisdiction in these cases. I was astonished when I heard the statement that there were now 400 cases of smallpox in and about Johnstown. We heard nothing of it until we got here, and we passed through Johnstown.

Mr. JAMES MOORE (Johnstown): That is since yesterday morning, if it is so.

Mr. DAVENPORT: That is what I was told. We have had quite an experience in this matter. In April, 1901, smallpox broke out there and ran two or three months and then broke out again in September and October. They had some at Wilkes-Barre and some at Hazleton and other places, and it prevailed during the whole winter. The total number of cases was only about 200, but it cost about \$150,000 in the aggregate. In Plymouth, where I live, the expense was some \$25,000 or \$30,000, and in Plymouth Township about \$40,000. We had a second outbreak in November and the City of Wilkes-Barre made an almost absolute quarantine against us and spread the report abroad that it was unsafe to go to our town, although the sanitary conditions were second to none. It was a great nuisance, and a blight upon our business, and that same condition of things prevailed in other communities in our district. We finally stamped it out. Here we find it is reported that there are 400 cases in Johnstown. Here is the Steward of our almshouse with 400 patients under his care. I think we should have had some notification. We have been, as the slang phrase is, "up against it," and hard, too. You wouldn't find this crowd coming to any more conventions under such conditions, if they knew it. When the first case broke out in April, 1901, in Plymouth Township, the neighbors came to us and said the doctor had pronounced a number of cases smallpox in one family in which there were ten people, and one of the cases a very bad case, and they said to us, "What are you going to do?" It was a new experience to us, and we hurriedly sent for a physician and guaranteed his pay at \$25 a day. Afterwards we paid him something like \$600 or \$700. But on investigation of the law we came to the conclusion that we were not responsible, as a poor district, for the care and maintenance and quarantining of a smallpox case or a smallpox epidemic, and since that



we haven't paid any of the bills, although they have aggregated over \$150,000. We have been threatened with lawsuits and have had all kinds of overtures made to us to pay part of it, and we have thought we ought to pay a portion of it, but have held back for fear we might get our neck in the noose and haven't paid anything.

JAMES MOORE (Cambria): Doesn't the law require the School Directors to have permission from the Court before they can take charge of these cases?

Mr. DAVENPORT: You are correct about that. They apply to the Court.

Mr. J. Q. TRUXAL (Westmoreland): This matter has given us much concern in our county. We don't recognize the law as Mr. Davenport does, but we may be wrong. We have, as a Poor Board, taken care of, provided medical attendance and nursing in some cases to about ninety-eight cases of smallpox in Westmoreland County this year.

The way we do it, as soon as a physician suspects he has a case of smallpox he has a Constable of the district take out an order of relief and serve it on the Poor Board, and what are we going to do? We must take care of them. In townships the rule has been that the School Directors have done the quarantining and taking out an order of relief and serving it on the Poor Board and they would quarantine the residence. If that has been done we then procure a physician and the necessities of life for the family, but the school law says that the School Directors may have a sanitary agent appointed; they may organize themselves into a board of health, and we have had one of the wealthiest townships in our county that stood on the technicality of the word "may" and refused to do anything. The result was we had a lot of smallpox there. As we recognize it, there is no law in existence that says that any body of men "shall" do anything.

My idea is that this Convention should emphasize the importance of the Legislative Committee having some law enacted so we may all understand what to do; so that every one can read and understand. I think this is one of the most important matters that this Convention may have the pleasure of acting upon. In our county a family that is able to pay its own physician rarely has a case of smallpox. The doctor calls it chicken pox, or Philippine measles, or something else. But as soon as the same doctor gets a case of chickenpox, or whatever it is, in a poor family, it is smallpox, and they want \$10 a trip for attending them. As we recognize it, there is no one in authority to whom we can say: "You go to the family of John Smith and see whether or not they have smallpox." We have had many cases besides the ninety-eight that the Poor Board has cared for that didn't come under our supervision because the family were in position to pay their own physicians, and it wasn't smallpox then. I think there should be some one in the county that the Poor Board, or Commissioners, or whoever it is, can send to ascertain the nature of the disease and know what it is. There is no question but that the Poor Board, when a family is reported with smallpox they become our subjects, and we must take care of them; but it is not satisfactory, because it is indefinite. Many of the cases, where we have gone in and taken possession of the surroundings, have had their physician see to them. We had one case where three children were afflicted with the disease, and we sent the County Physician there to examine, and we had fifteen cases in that immediate vicinity that we

took care of, in addition to those that took care of themselves. I hope this Legislative Committee will present such an act at the next meeting of the Legislature as we can all understand and be governed by.

Mr. COLBORN: I agree partially with the gentleman from Westmoreland (Mr. Truxall.) Dr. Lee urged upon me that this Convention take some action on this matter. Whenever an order of removal is handed to the Directors of the Poor they are undoubtedly responsible and must take charge of the case.

A voice: To what extent should they take care of it?

Mr. COLBORN: As soon as an order of removal is brought to you, if the person can be removed, it is your duty to take him to the county poorhouse. You haven't the authority to take them there, where you think it would endanger the lives of others. You must provide a place of maintenance and a physician for him. I think in the case Mr. Davenport spoke of they could be sued.

Mr. DAVENPORT: There was no order of removal served upon us at any stage of the proceedings.

Mr. COLBORN: That makes a difference. But under the celebrated case in Chester County a man had been sick and a doctor had attended him and six or eight months afterward took out an order of relief. The man had actually died; and the Court held that the Poor Board was responsible and they paid the bill. Last winter they were building a railroad in our county and the contractor brought in a great many colored men and smallpox broke out among them. The School Board went to the Court and had a Health Officer appointed, and at the same time an order of removal was taken out, and placed them under the care of the Directors of the Poor. And they had to see that they were taken care of, and it cost our county some \$400. A number of cases were contracted from one of these colored men, and the Directors of the Poor had to take care of them. If we pass a resolution asking the Legislature to take steps to appropriate money enough so that the State will pay these expenses, and another providing that where contractors bring laborers from outside into the district and there comes an epidemic of this kind that they shall provide for them during their sickness I think it would be the right thing to do. It is a great burden on a district to take care of such cases where they are not residents of the district. If they were from the neighboring counties we could send the bills to those counties.

Mr. DAVENPORT: Is your suggestion, practically, to have the Legislature vest the State Board of Health with the authority and power to expend so much money and have a fund at their disposal that they could pay all the expenses of those cases in the State? The expense during the past year for taking care of smallpox probably runs into millions of dollars.

Mr. COLBORN: Where they are able to pay their own expenses the State Board of Health ought not to pay them.

Mr. ALLSHOUSE: It seems to me that the general scheme of the law as to this matter should be presented here in all its phases. I think there are very few of us who understand the true position of the law as it exists to-day. First, let me say that in regard to the emergency laws I deem there is but one point where there is now any defect. It is a well-known fact that two Justices of the Peace are the tribunal for determining whether or not a person is a pauper. When a case is presented to them and an order of relief is asked, they pass upon that

question. When they sign that order it is the highest tribunal in the Commonwealth for that particular thing and there is no appeal from it. Then the law of 1893 came in, changing the law from the two and a half years; then the Act of Assembly was passed which you will find on page 115 of the Laws of 1893, and says that if an order of relief is taken out within ten days from the time the services are performed and served upon one of the Directors of the Poor in the district, that party can recover. Now that makes that poor district responsible, and there is no appeal from it. The Court of Common Pleas cannot change that. The only thing you can then contest is: Have the charges been reasonable? You cannot contest the right of recovery. Now, having gone that far, it becomes the duty of the Directors of the Poor to take care of that person and maintain him. I say "maintain;" that doesn't include anything in regard to quarantine. That is a separate matter—that is of the police power of the State. The Poor Directors have nothing to do with quarantine. When they have followed the order of relief and given maintenance, then they are done. You say that the Poor Directors or the poor district is absolutely bound for maintenance. If the order hasn't been pursued—if there was no order—the Act of 1893 says that the poor district shall not be held liable. Consequently they don't need to pay. But in our county they know what the law is, and they always pursue it. In cities and boroughs you have boards of health, properly and legally qualified. They have full powers and can establish a quarantine, and it necessarily follows, and the act says, that they shall be liable for the quarantine service. Now take a township—and here is where the defect comes; you have no law in regard to quarantine, except the law of 1899, which says that the School Board may quarantine. You know people say, "We may, but we will not." The Act of 1899 doesn't confer on the School Board any power more than to say they can act as quarantine officers. But it don't say what they shall do. We, as lawyers, know that where you confer a particular duty upon particular people you must define their powers and strength. So when we go to the School Directors and say you have such powers and authority, they say to us: "Show us what power and authority we have," and we cannot do it. The act says the School Board may appoint a quarantine officer, but supposing they say, "We will not do it," I know of no power on earth that will compel them to. And when they do appoint a quarantine officer, the Court must fix his salary. Consequently you have an act authorizing the School Board to be a board of public health—that is, they may be—without any powers conferred. It doesn't say that they shall use poor funds for paying the expenses, in case they do this, and you know you can't divert the money to any other purpose than that for which it is to be used; consequently the School Board says, "We can quarantine, but we have no authority to pay." And any way you may take that Act of 1899 it is entirely defective. Now I believe that every community and district should take care of its own people. I don't think the State ought to be the quarantine officer in our county, any more than the Board of Health should pronounce a particular case smallpox. I say each county ought to take care of itself. If the School Board is to be the quarantine officers of the district, then invest them with full power and authority, as you have in the boroughs and municipalities, and make it obligatory on them to act, and also say that they shall collect the various funds by taxation, and shall pay for the things they do. That is all you need.

Mr. D. L. O'NEIL (Luzerne): These several statements only go to emphasize the fact that we want some legislation on this subject. Everything is now at loose ends. The responsibility seems to rest nowhere. The School Board may act, and the Poor Board may act, but when you get an order for relief it only compels the furnishing of the necessities and they have no power to quarantine, and I doubt whether the poor districts are clothed with the power to take a man out of his home and drag him to a pesthouse some miles away, if the family object under the law now. What we want is some arrangement to fix the responsibility somewhere. There is no responsibility anywhere now.

Mr. TRUXAL: The result of our investigation. In Westmoreland County we were particular in investigating our smallpox cases, so far as the families afflicted were concerned, in regard to vaccination, and I want to say that before that I hadn't much faith in vaccination, but the result of our investigation is this: Out of ninety-eight cases we haven't had a case of smallpox that had been successfully vaccinated in seven years or one case where an adult member of the family contracted the disease and took it into the family (where there was a house full of children), where the children had ever been vaccinated, where one of the children took the disease, and I would impress the importance upon every one of having every member of your family and every one in whom you have any interest vaccinated.

Mr. OCHSE: We have had a lot of smallpox in our neighborhood, and the doctor told me the other day that so far as it has gone he hasn't had a case that has been successfully vaccinated in seven years. About four miles from us there were ninety-seven cases of smallpox.

Mr. MADORE: In answer to Mr. Davenport, I think the intention of the first resolution is to give the State Board of Health funds with which to investigate cases before the legal authorities have time to go after them. I think that, inasmuch as the law is very lame, that the adoption of this resolution, and any action that the Legislative Committee might take as to this matter, would be very proper, because, as the law exists now we cannot compel the School Directors to take any action. I believe if this fund were re-established epidemics might be averted. Dr. Lee thoroughly understands the matter, and I think under his direction the money would be judiciously expended. I think it would be wise for this Convention to recommend the re-establishment of the \$50,000 emergency fund until such time as we can secure proper action and amendments to the laws as they now exist.

President Gould here read the two resolutions that were introduced by Mr. Colborn (see resolutions, report of Committee on Resolutions) and asked if the Convention was ready to act upon them.

P. H. BRIDENBAUGH (Blair): I doubt the propriety of that second resolution. I have had considerable experience with smallpox cases, and I haven't found as much trouble with the law as with the excitement and over-estimation of this disease on the part of the people. I don't think that resolution would cover cases like we have had in our county. Railroad employees, where they come in, I don't think are contract labor exactly. The majority of our cases last year were railroad employees. We in Blair County don't question the law. In 1899 we had an epidemic of smallpox there and the Board of Directors of the Poor were appealed to. We were fortunate to get three houses, and we handled



twenty-one cases. I supplied them with provisions from the almshouse, and the expense to the county wasn't over \$500.

One physician wanted to make the Board of Directors pay \$25 a visit for three visits that he had made to a patient that had smallpox.

Afterward we got a doctor to make the visits for \$5 a visit. Since that we have had no lawsuits, and our board don't question any application made to furnish relief or take charge of any poor family with a case of smallpox.

We are not fighting the law or anything of that kind. We take charge of cases with an order from two Justices of the Peace, if they are poor people, and if the directors are appealed to to pay the bills they pay them.

Mr. SMITH (Chester): I feel that we haven't touched on the most important matter in connection with this case. An authority so high as Dr. Welch, of Philadelphia, where they treated over 2,000 cases, assured us that they hadn't a case out of 2,000 where the person had been successfully vaccinated within three years.

The question is called for.

Mr. Truxal moves the adoption of the two resolutions.

President Gould asked if the resolutions have the approval of Dr. Lee and the Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions. Mr. Madore states that he understands it has.

President Gould again reads the two resolutions.

The motion to adopt is carried and the two resolutions are adopted.

Mr. MADORE: In regard to the resolution recommending the purchase of this building; that was inserted at the request of some of the citizens of Somerset. I would, as Chairman, hardly have recommended that resolution. It was inserted as an act of courtesy.

President Gould read the resolution referred to.

Mr. Allshouse moved that the resolution be amended by striking out all after the words, "That earnest efforts be made to secure its adoption at the next session of the Legislature."

Mr. COLBORN: There isn't a county in the State, possibly, that hasn't had an appropriation for something. Somerset County has never received a penny from the State for anything. Other counties have their hospitals, and we would like to have a hospital in our county. This is one of the most healthful and beautiful places in the State. You have seen this building and the State Board of Charities has been here looking at it. There are some fifty or sixty acres of ground connected with it and more that could be bought. This whole thing could be purchased, already equipped, and you could open up within three days, and it could be purchased for less than the foundations of some of the hospitals in the State cost. I suggested this to the Committee on Resolutions. It is a mere dictum. We need a hospital for epileptics. This is large enough for the reception of 200 to 400 patients within three days' notice. These are only recommendations. They go to a committee to be appointed and they may never think of it afterward. I would like to have the opinion of this Convention.

Mr. ALLSHOUSE: I don't want to show any discourtesy toward our friends here. I think this is a beautiful place and that possibly if this building could be purchased at a reasonable figure it might serve the purpose well for the State. It would be a grand building for a hospital in general, but I don't think it is a proper building for an epileptic

hospital. Somerset will need a hospital, and it might be used as an epileptic institution, but I think with a little different wording of the resolution it might be arranged. But I do think Mr. Colborn has a good case to present to the State.

The question is called for.

President GOULD: The motion is to strike out that part of the resolutions recommending this as a suitable place, etc.

Mr. ALLSHOUSE: I will withdraw my objection.

Mr. BRIDENBAUGH: I would like to have that resolution pass. We don't obligate ourselves to buy this, but only to recommend it as a suitable location. I would recommend that we change the wording from "Highland Inn" and call it a sanitarium.

Mr. OCHSE: I suggest that we insert that we recommend "Somerset" and say nothing about the inn.

The amendment of Mr. Ochse is agreed to, the resolution to read, "And we further recommend Somerset as a suitable location."

The original resolution, with the change indicated, is voted upon and adopted.

Mr. E. E. Allshouse (Westmoreland) here read the following paper:

## Epileptics; the Necessity of a State Hospital for Their Care and Treatment.

Epilepsy consists in periodical attacks of complete or partial insensibility, accompanied with involuntary, convulsive, and more or less violent motions of the body and limbs. It is peculiarly a disease of the nervous system, usually affecting its principal and most vital centers, the brain and spinal cord, and, when the paroxysm is complete, the whole nervous system has lost its power of voluntary action. The whole body is shaken and convulsed by that strange and uncontrollable power which racks and ruins both the mind and body so that a single attack of idiopathic epilepsy has been known to destroy the mind and change the disposition and habits of its unfortunate victim, causing one who had been formerly gentle, amiable, and tractable to appear rude, vicious, and perverse.

The premonitions of the attacks or paroxysms are frequently heralded by heaviness of the head, swooning, fever, enhanced irritability, alarm, and excessive terror. There are often present indescribable visual sensations, double vision, indistinctness of sight, deepening into complete blindness. When once a certain vision, as that of an old woman or of a man with a hammer in his hand striking a blow, has ushered in a paroxysm, the same form will usher in subsequent attacks. These preceding sensations differ widely in different subjects, but whatever they be in the particular individual they will almost invariably recur as the precursor of each succeeding attack. A strange characteristic of this malady is that the sight of a particular place or object, the hearing of a certain sound or noise, or the association or contact of the patient with any of those sights, sounds, or objects which are usually present during the paroxysm will throw the mind of the sufferer in a state of excitement and cause a recurrence of an attack. It is highly important to the welfare of these unfortunate individuals to be removed from such unfavorable environments. They should be brought into new scenes and pleasant surroundings, where the mind would be cheerfully employed and diverted from old and pernicious associations.

It is during this incipient stage of the malady that medical aid is most needed, and in fact the only time at which aid is of any practical avail, for after the attack has fully laid hold upon its victim and unconsciousness seized the mind and convulsions distracted the body nothing can be done to mitigate its severity and it must be left to run its course.

The safety of the community from the tendency to the commission of

crime by epileptics is also a matter of serious consideration by courts of justice and the public generally.

Epileptics, from their nervous susceptibilities and tendency to abnormal mental conditions, should be regarded with peculiar tenderness by those to whom is committed the administration of public justice.

Investigations conducted by men of eminent ability and great opportunities have led to the conclusion that epilepsy produces not only general mental prostration, but anomalies in the entire moral and intellectual system. And although the malady coexists with great intelligence and mental vigor, as such illustrious examples as Caesar, Napoleon, and Mohammed, show, yet the patient retains, not only during the attack, but for an indefinite period afterward, but an imperfect use of his faculties.

Persons truly epileptic are easily excited to anger, revenge, and deeds of violence on the slightest provocation in the intervals of attacks. And although these attacks do not always attain to the degree of mental derangement, yet there is always that predisposition to insane ebullitions and generally a morbid irritability which impairs, if not wholly destroys, the moral responsibility of actions growing out of them. Hence the public safety demands that these persons should be so far restrained as to remove the possibility of danger to themselves and to the community.

Having given a description of the character of the disease in a very limited and imperfect manner, the necessity of a State hospital for its care and treatment will now be considered. And first, let me say that, except to the milder cases of this type, my remarks are not intended to apply to that class of epileptics who are also insane, and whose minds during the interim of paroxysms are to any great degree unbalanced or idiotic, as these can be cared for as well in the State hospitals for the insane and feeble-minded.

As we have observed, and the pathological writers on this subject declare, it is only during the incipient stages of the paroxysms, when the premonitory symptoms characterize the activity of the disease, that medical aid is to any great degree effective. It is therefore apparent that the home, or in fact any institution, public or private, where there is no skillful resident physician, is not a fit place for the care and treatment of this most unfortunate class of our fellow-beings. The private county home, often many miles distant from the nearest physician, or even the town or city home, only a square distant, cannot be reached in time to intercept and stop the paroxysm. Under these conditions the physician usually, if indeed not always, arrives too late either to prevent the attack, or, what is perhaps more essential to the proper administration of medical aid, to observe and study the cause of the malady in the particular subject, for it is a well-known fact that the causes are as diversified as the patients themselves. Then there is the want of the proper amount of practice within the sphere of the ordinary medical practitioner to fully qualify him to the highest proficiency, either because there are few or no patients in his community or because of his lack of opportunity to see and study the case at the proper period. For it is a well-established and recognized principle in all professions and walks of life that practice alone conduces to the highest success and proficiency. Disease, as death, the great leveler of mankind, is no respecter of persons. It invades alike the hovel of the poor and the palace of the rich; it lays its insidious hand upon the brightest intellects, as well as those of milder splendor. Therefore, is it not most with the prevention and alleviation of these dread enemies to the lives and happiness of mankind that the modern science and benevolence of our civilization should be most concerned? We answer that our Anglo-Saxon civilization boasts of her pride in her attainments to this end.

The proposition then presents itself: How can this unfortunate class of individuals be most effectually cared for and the safety of the community be preserved? We think by the State.

Perhaps one centrally-located and well-equipped hospital would be sufficient for our present needs and for many years to come, if judicious care and discrimination were used in the admission of patients. In the opinion of the writer, it would serve no good purpose to admit those chronic and deep-seated cases where the mind has been greatly impaired by the relentless ravages of many years.



Such a hospital, built on ample grounds, with pleasant surroundings, the inmates supplied with employment and recreation suitable to both their mental and physical requirements, and supplied with competent, trained nurses and conscientious physicians especially trained and practiced in the care and treatment of epileptics, would serve the highest attainable purposes of our Christian civilization. Here, amidst pleasant surroundings, drawn away from former scenes and conditions, the mind will be led away from those former habits of thought and action which stimulated the nervous system to paroxysms of the disease.

Here, also, the attendants and physicians, ever at hand, can administer to their wants in due season; have the highest opportunities of investigating the cause of the disease, and become skilled in the best methods of its mitigation and prevention. Thus we would raise up a class of persons skilled in the care and treatment of this most unfortunate class of persons. Thus would be attained the ultimate objects of it all—namely, the prevention and alleviation of the suffering of the patients themselves. Then also would science be advanced in its knowledge and society have performed its full duty toward its weak and afflicted members.

Mr. P. H. BRIDENBAUGH (Blair): This gentleman takes the position there that we have been wanting to remedy. I suppose I state what all the superintendents of our State and county institutions believe, that we would be well rid of our epileptic insane; that they are a source of trouble and annoyance to the other inmates. I have been a strong advocate of a State institution for epileptics since I have been in this work.

President GOULD: There is undoubtedly a necessity for a colony for epileptics in this State. I think such a colony should be established. But what is more desirable than anything else is that we find what is the cause of epilepsy and how many kinds there are, and seek for a remedy. No remedy can be found until the causes are known. As Mr. Allshouse refers to some cases, distinguished in history, of "falling sickness," which is one phase of epilepsy, two of the greatest warriors of the world, and they died in their full senses, I have in mind several who have gone through a long life and were afflicted for many years with these attacks, and yet to their last days their minds were perfectly bright; others develop so that within a year they need constant care. Very little is known of the causes of epilepsy, and no remedy has been found to cure it. In some cases nature asserts herself and in some manner removes the cause. I think every effort should be made to determine the cause, and some great philanthropists should give some of their wealth for the purpose of studying this disease. I understand from Dr. Murdock that he has over 200 cases in his institution, out of 700 inmates there. They retard all our institutions.

Mr. ALLSHOUSE: I would like to state my reasons why I excepted that particular class. Supposing we had a chronic insane institution in the State. We send that class to that institution. There is no hope for them, so far known at present. It serves no good purpose to keep these epileptics in the insane institutions of the State, because we know that the surroundings and the suggestions will cause the disease to be heightened. You don't want them in the poorhouses because of the trouble they make. What will be the result if you put them all in an institution for epileptics? The idea is not to house them up, but to benefit and restore them if possible. If you are going to take these chronic epileptics and those that are beyond redemption, the mere sight or presentation of the particular thing which ushers in a paroxysm will disturb the minds of others. Then why would you put those cases into



the epileptic hospital? That would be defeating the identical object for which it was established. That class of persons is just as well restrained at home, in your poorhouse, and Directors of the Poor and Superintendents must know that they will have some trouble. If they are incurable they can as well be kept at home, and are better if they are kept away from those who would be worse by their presence.

Thomas J. Hughes, of Cambria, here read the following paper:

### Sanitary Arrangements, Water Supplies, and Sewerage.

Mr. President, Ladies, and Gentlemen.

Your Committee on Program has assigned me the duty of presenting a paper on "Sanitary Arrangements, Water Supplies, and Sewerage."

I approach the subject with considerable diffidence, not having much practical experience, and less technical knowledge. Having lived all my days on the top of these grand old mountains, with its limpid streams and pure air, full of life-giving ozone, we are apt to let the subject go by without much thought, but in my present position we have found ourselves face to face with the past and present.

In the days of our fathers our only thought was to house, clothe, and feed those under our care, and when death invaded our homes or charitable institutions we were apt to attribute it to some dispensation of Providence. Not so now. Sickness and death still find their victims, but we no longer attribute it altogether to a dispensation of Providence. Science comes to our aid, and with its microscope, X-rays, etc., we find we have been violating some of the laws of our being, and the cause is found in vitiated air, or some germ-breeding cellar, or un-ventilated room, or corners, in fact with our environment.

The pressing demand of all our modern institutions is for better buildings, better sewerage, better light and ventilation, and better preparation of food and clothing.

As to water, the first consideration should be its purity; next to have an abundant supply for all purposes, and, in connection, a modern system of plumbing and water arrangements will add largely to the health and comfort of the inmates.

And now we touch upon the chief subject of this paper, namely, sewerage. In that, I conceive, lies our greatest danger. Outbuildings devoid of sewerage, inconvenient, not adapted to the purposes intended, so arranged as to allow the poisonous odor to vitiate the air, and to thus contaminate our living and sleeping apartments.

The present system of water and sewer arrangements for private dwellings, as also for public and for charitable institutions, has of late years reached out to so many conveniences and comforts that, without proper safeguards with regard to proper sewerage and drainage, they may become our worst enemies, instead of one of our greatest blessings.

I need scarcely refer to all the details which enter into the proper arrangement of the construction of modern plumbing and sewerage, for you all are more or less interested and know somewhat of the present mode of its construction. To throw around it all the safeguards possible the Legislature of 1901 passed a law for the regulating of drainage, sewerage, and plumbing for cities of the second class. The said law, if fully carried out, with inspections by competent inspectors, will insure to every one contemplating remodeling old buildings or constructing new ones a perfect specification of plumbing and sewerage.

I would recommend to the careful consideration of any one contemplating improvements as above, namely, sewerage and plumbing, the act of the Legislature above mentioned.

President GOULD: Mr. P. H. Bridenbaugh (Blair) moves that the picture of the delegates taken before the "inn" to-day be inserted in the report of the proceedings.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Colborn and agreed to.

President GOULD: We are now through with the program for the afternoon session.

Upon motion, the Convention adjourned until 9:30 to-morrow morning.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING.

On Wednesday evening Hon. R. D. McGonnigle delivered an illustrated stereopticon lecture, entitled "When I Went West," in the opera house for the benefit of the Children's Aid Society, which was largely attended. Mr. McGonnigle's happy off-hand style of description of the trip and of Western life suited the subject exactly, and with the aid of the excellent pictures the entertainment was a thorough enjoyable one.

The following is clipped from the Somerset "Democrat" of October 29th:

The entertainment given in the interest of the Children's Aid Society by Mr. R. D. McGonnigle, who was assisted by several of the gifted vocalists and elocutionists of the town, was one of the most beautiful and high-toned entertainments we have had the pleasure of witnessing for a long time—in fact, for years—and it was to be greatly regretted that the political meeting was held the same night.

The singing of Miss McMillan, Miss Callahan, and Mr. Trent was exceptionally fine, and all were encoored and had to respond a second time. They never appeared to better advantage or sang more sweetly. The recitation taken from "Quo Vadis" by Mrs Casebeer was fine, and held the audience almost spellbound during her rendition of it.

The lecture of Mr. McGonnigle was certainly very interesting. The pictures were fine, and his description of his journeyings over the prairies, through Yellowstone Park, their camp life, days with the Indians, and his experience with bronco horses, cowboys, and Indians, together with his trip overland to California by stage coach, told in his interesting way, was very entertaining indeed, and what made it all the more interesting to our people was the fact that one of Somerset's boys was with him in his travels. The proceeds were for the benefit of the Children's Aid, and should have been several times larger than what they were. Mr. McGonnigle is the founder of the Association and has always had the welfare and success of it at heart. His counsels are good and his remarks on all subjects are listened to with interest and pleasure. The lecture was gratuitous on his part, which was very generous, to say the least. Those who were not present missed a great treat.

## PROCEEDINGS OF OCT. 16, 1902.

On Thursday morning carriages were provided and the delegates were taken to the County Home, where a cold lunch was served as soon as the visitors had inspected the home and the new insane building, both of which were found to be in excellent condition, after which a short session was held in the new chapel. Mr. George Smith, of Somerset, read the following interesting history of the Somerset County Poor-house from its first inception to the present time:

### Historical Sketch of the Somerset County Home.

By **GEORGE H. SMITH, Director.**

On the 15th of April, 1795, by Act of Assembly, our grand old county was formed, having been taken off of Bedford County, and was named after the Earl of Somerset, England, who was visiting in this county. It is second to none in the State. Her people rank in point of intellect, honesty, and industry with any. Her love of country, patriotism, and loyalty to the flag cannot be questioned. The monument erected at Somerset in memory of her brave sons tells the sad story of their loyalty and devotion to the Nation and Old Glory.

Somerset County, with her fertile valleys, elevated plains, and grand old mountains, is destined to become the leading county of the State.

Her untold mineral wealth, just being developed, will give fuel to the world for ages to come. Her magnificent churches, schools, and beautiful homes foretell of the moral, intellectual, and prosperous condition of her people.

Just fifty years after the incorporation of the county, Somerset County, by Act of Assembly approved the 15th day of April, 1845, was made a poor district.

The bill for incorporating it into a poor district to be enacted into a law was drawn by Hon. Isaac Hugus. The bill was presented to the Legislature and its passage advocated by Hon. John R. Edie, who was then a member of the Legislature from this county. Both of these gentlemen have since passed to their final rest.

The Commissioners named in the bill to select a site and purchase a suitable farm were George Walker, Samuel Miller, John Hanna, Peter Putman, David Lavan, John Hoffman, Benjamin Kimmell, George Chorpenning, and Joseph Miller. The Act of the 13th of March, 1846, extended the time one year for establishing the home.

The election submitting the question to the voters of Somerset County, whether they desired to erect a House of Employment or not, was held on the 14th day of October, 1845, and was carried by a small majority in favor of the erection of a poorhouse.

This present farm was selected and purchased by the Commissioners named in the act from George Chorpenning for \$7,500.

In the fall of 1846 the House of Employment was opened and all persons supported and maintained by the townships under the Overseer system were brought to the home.

At the general election held on the 13th day of October, 1846, Absalom Casebeer, Joseph Imhoff, and Benjamin Kimmell were elected Directors of the Poor, who, according to the act of Assembly, met on the 2d day of November, 1846, at the courthouse and drew lots as to the term each was to serve, Absalom Casebeer drawing the one-year term, Joseph Imhoff the two-year term, and Benjamin Kimmell the three-year term. The first meeting of the Directors was held on the 9th day of January, 1847.

David Smith was appointed the first Steward of the poorhouse and served until the first day of April, 1851, when he was succeeded by Perry Walker, who served until the 1st day of December, 1858, when he was elected Sheriff of the county.

The Directors were succeeded by Joseph Chorpenning, Henry Frank, Samuel Will, John Lichty, Jacob Ankeny, Jacob Koontz, Henry J. Heiple, Jacob Ferner, William Will, John Suder, George Zimmerman, David Ankeny, John Cupp, George Cobaugh, Rudolph Ferner, Samuel Trent, Daniel Kimmell, Joseph Coleman, Samuel Snyder, Gillian Koontz, Reuben Woy, Alexander Korns, Josiah Ankeny, Jesse Hoover, John C. Barron, F. G. Schmucker, Jacob M. Fike, Alexander Hunter, William Dickey, Joseph L. Miller, Josiah D. Weigle, Jacob McGregor, William Dull, Harrison Goan, J. W. Peck, M. Shumaker, Adam S. Miller, William J. Glessner, Samuel J. Bowser, and George H. Smith, the three latter composing the present Board of Directors.

The following have served as Stewards of the home after Perry Walker resigned: Josiah Brant, Reuben Woy, Joseph Pritts, William Suder, Harrison Berkey, Franklin Launtz, Samuel Bittner, William W. Baker, John C. Miller, William E. Dickey, William Ream, Elmer E. Pugh, and J. C. Deitz, the present Steward.

The first Treasurer was M. A. Sanner, who served for fifteen years without compensation. The original buildings on the farm were a two-story brick about 30 by 40 feet, with a frame addition attached. The old frame was only torn down while J. C. Miller was Steward.

These buildings composed a wayside inn, called the "Fairview Inn." Here it was, in the palmy days of the old pike, that many weary travellers sought rest within its walls and were entertained by thrilling stories and adventures of the early settlements as they sat around the great open wood fire.

Here it was that many drovers led their herds and flocks to rest, shelter, and feed for the following day's drive. Here it was that the famous "Summeryuckle" entertained the guests with his spelling, and John Stull, the violinist, drew his bow and made music for the merry dancers as they danced the hornpipe and the good old cornrow dance.



The regular meetings of the Board of Directors were fixed on the first day of each month. The minutes show, however, that for the first twenty years they seldom ever met more than twice a year.

The time for holding the meetings has been adhered to ever since. The main brick building was erected in 1859 by John Mong and cost \$9,999. The frame building, which was a great mistake, was built in 1882 and cost \$4,500. The brick asylum building was built in 1891 and cost \$7,000. The addition to the main brick building was built in 1896 at a cost of \$2,800, by Joseph Auman, W. H. Stoddard being the architect for all the buildings erected, as well as the present one.

Thus we see at an early period in the history of the county provisions were made for her poor and destitute. From the earliest period of which history was known the injunction was to care for the poor.

The blessed Master, when sojourning among men, left an injunction as to duty which was made so clear, so imperative, as to be the final and absolute test of character: "Care for the hungered, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned." All Christian people and governments since have recognized this vital duty and with more or less fidelity and success have provided for its performance.

Up until the reign of Henry VIII. the poor of England were entirely cared for by the charity of benevolent Christians. During his reign statutes were made affording compulsory methods providing for the poor and impotent.

Our system of three Directors and manner of caring for the poor has been modeled after the English plan. Pennsylvania was the first of the colonies to make provision by statute for the care of her poor. As early as the 7th day of December, 1782, the Assembly under William Penn passed a law providing for the poor, the widow, and orphan.

The Act of Assembly passed in 1693 provided that a public stock to defray the necessary charges in each county be kept on hand, and empowered Justices, in emergency, to disburse money for relief of the poor.

The Constitution of 1790 ordered the Legislature to provide by law the establishing of schools in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis. Nothing need be added to this to show that the men who made such laws were infused by the parable of the "Good Samaritan and the half-dead Jew," and in answering perfectly for all people the lawyer's question: "Who is my neighbor?"

On the 25th of May, 1897, the Legislature passed an Act of Assembly providing where counties made provisions for the maintenance and care of their insane they should receive from the State \$1.50 per week for each patient so treated, cared for, and maintained in said hospital.

On the 1st day of October, 1898, the Somerset County Hospital was opened and 128 patients were admitted.

On the 1st day of January, 1902, the contract for the present repairs of the home was let to Rolla Hostetler for the sum of \$3,500, which have just been completed and comprised the building of the addition to the barn, the large and handsome porch in front of the main building, and the refitting and remodeling of the wing of the main building. Never in the history of the home has it presented a finer appearance. Plans have been adopted for the building of a new laundry—wash, boiler, and water houses—which will be erected in the near future.

The present Board of Directors are: William J. Glessner, President; Samuel J. Bowser, George H. Smith; L. C. Colborn, Esq., Attorney and Secretary; J. C. Deitz, Steward; Mrs. Amanda Deitz, Matron; Dr. P. F. Shaffer, Physician, and Peter Dumbauld, Treasurer.

Quite a number of short talks were made complimentary of the county, town, and home, and the hospitality of the people. The new President-elect was then introduced and he made a very nice speech, in which he thanked the delegates for the honor conferred upon him and invited all to come to Lancaster next year, where they would receive a royal welcome. After singing "Coronation" and the benediction by the Rev. Mr. Kauffman, the Convention adjourned.



## APPENDIX.

### Reports of Districts and Societies Presented During the Sessions to Be Printed in These Proceedings.

#### ALLEGHENY CITY HOME.

At the close of our fiscal year we had: Total number of inmates, 401, a gain of 20 during the year; total number of days supported, 139,114; average daily number supported, 381 13-100.

Of the above there was confined in the Asylum 199, making a loss of 3 in this department during the year; number of days supported in the Asylum, 72,599; average daily number, 198 87-100.

There was admitted during the year 282; born, 5; making an aggregate of 287; discharged, 190; died, 77; an aggregate loss of 267.

Of the above there was admitted to the Asylum 67; discharged, 34; died, 36.

#### Expenditures.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Current expenses .....                 | \$42,764 64 |
| New improvements .....                 | 5,159 65    |
| City office .....                      | 9,465 99    |
| Other institutions and districts ..... | 8,021 16    |
| Outdoor relief .....                   | 9,632 20    |
| Total .....                            | \$75,043 64 |

#### Receipts.

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Collected from all sources, except taxes, with supplies on hand ..... | \$25,797 12 |
| Net expense for maintenance at City Home .....                        | 30,104 56   |
| Average weekly cost per capita .....                                  | 1 52.3      |

The two new buildings under course of construction and reported at last meeting are not yet completed, but we expect to be able to occupy the male building within the next sixty days.

The officers of the Department of Charities are: Barton Grubbs, Director, Allegheny, Pa.; James F. Bailey, Chief Clerk, Allegheny, Pa.; William P. Hunker, Superintendent City Home, Hoboken, Pa.; George C. Kelly, Clerk City Home, Hoboken, Pa.; W. N. Marshall, Acting Resident Physician, Aspinwall, Pa.

#### ALLEGHENY COUNTY.

The Allegheny County Home is located at Woodville, ten miles from the Union Depot, on the Washington Branch of the P. C. C. & St. L. R. R., and comprises a farm of 205 acres, on which is located the County Home and also the Hospital for the Insane. The home was first erected in 1853, to which was added a hospital building in 1886 and an additional wing for women in 1898. These buildings were only intended to provide for the indigent poor, the insane being cared for in the State hospitals until after the enactment of the law known as the County Care Act, when the Department for the Insane was erected and had on the 1st day of October, 1902, completed the second year of its existence. This department is built on the cottage plan and includes an administration building and eight separate cottages. These cottages are connected to a main corridor, or hallway, which is 500 feet in length, leading to a rotunda at the rear of the administration building. It is a fireproof building of brick, with stone trimmings. The hallways and dining room floors are of tile and the sanitary arrangements are the best known to modern methods.

The official management of the home and hospital is as follows: Directors of the Poor—W. H. Guy, President; H. W. Ochse, Secretary; Frank T. Redman, Superintendent; S. W. Lea.

A tabulated report of the population of the home is as follows:

### Report of the Allegheny County Home.

The number of insane patients in the hospital October 1, 1901, was follows: Adults—213 males, 53 females; 39 children; total, 305; 88 native, 217 foreign. Number admitted during the year ending September 30, 1902: Adults—283 males, 81 females; 36 children; born, 17; total, 417; 182 native; 235 foreign; total in and admitted, 722—270 native, 452 foreign.

Discharged and died: 345 males, 92 females, 69 children; total, 506. Remaining in the home October 1, 1902: 151 males, 42 females, 23 children; total, 216; 58 native, 158 foreign.

### Report of the Insane Department.

The number of insane patients in the hospital October 1, 1901, was 350—198 males, 152 females—169 native, 181 foreign. Number admitted during the year ending September 30, 1902, was 126—182 males, 44 females—67 native, 59 foreign; total in and admitted, 476.

The number discharged during the year, 66—47 males, 19 females. Died during the year 57—33 males, 24 females. Remaining in the hospital October 1, 1902, 353—189 males, 164 females.

Total expenditures for the year ending September 30, 1902, \$49,576.16; salary of officers and attendants, \$15,627.05; total number of officers and employees, 50 (attendants, 35.)

### BEDFORD COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

The Bedford County Almshouse is located about three miles from Bedford, in the upper end of the Cumberland Valley. It is a large, modern building. A farm of 200 acres, about 150 acres of which is cultivated, is managed by the Steward, and last year yielded 484 bushels of wheat, 158 bushels of oats, 328 bushels of potatoes, and 2,500 bushels of corn. Eighty-four tons of hay were also made.

|                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Number in almshouse .....           | 82       |
| Average weekly cost per capita..... | \$ 1 07  |
| Expended for outdoor relief.....    | 5,344 63 |
| Permanent improvements .....        | 1,543 93 |
| Supplies for almshouse .....        | 4,126 46 |
| Expenses of farm .....              | 796 42   |
| Miscellaneous expenses .....        | 1,094 71 |
| Salaries .....                      | 1,972 91 |

Total expenses .....\$14 879 06

The officers are: Directors—M. L. Sams, Samuel Shaffer, and W. W. Cessna; Steward, J. D. Tewell; Matron, Mrs. J. D. Tewell; Treasurer, J. W. Lessig; Physician, A. C. Wolf; Attorney, B. F. Madore.

J. D. TEWELL, Steward.

### CHESTER COUNTY.

During the year the health of the inmates of both home and hospital has been unusually good. The painting of the buildings has been continued; the grading about the hospital continued, and a large area is ready to seed. A ball field has been put into good condition and is much used by the insane men. The furnishing of the hospital has been continued, and now, with painting, the wards are assuming a homelike appearance. A chicken house has been built and a cow barn is in process of construction, which will give the insane men work in winter. An eighth of a mile of road about the buildings has been macadamized.

#### Home.

Admitted—123 men, 45 women, 41 children.

Discharged—140 men, 35 women, 47 children.

Died—25 men, 7 women, 2 children.

There remained in the home September 30, 1902, 91 men, 69 women, and 14 children; total, 174.

Born during the year—5 boys, 2 girls.

**Hospital.**

Admitted—36 men, 26 women.

Discharged—19 men, 6 women.

Died—6 men, 7 women.

Remaining September 30, 1902—105 men, 84 women. Total, 189. Of these 7 are on parole from hospital, making hospital census 182 September 30, 1902.

**Summary of Expenses.**

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Receipts from farm, September 30, 1901, and receipts from Board of Patients and farm..... | \$12,213 16       |
| Drawn from County Treasurer .....   | 42,620 65         |
| Gross expenditure .....   | \$54,833 81       |
| Paid to County Treasurer.....   | \$12,281 20       |
| Cash on hand .....  | 223 39— 12,504 59 |
| Net expenditure .....   | \$42,329 22       |
| Orders drawn on County Treasurer.....   | \$42,620 65       |
| Cash paid to Treasurer (Insane).....  | 12,281 20         |
| Net cost of poor to county.....   | \$30,339 45       |
| Net cost per capita per week at Home.....   | \$1 68            |
| Gross cost per capita per week at Hospital.....   | \$2 60            |

**Produce of Farm.**

One hundred and twenty tons of hay, 2,200 bushels of potatoes, 725 bushels of wheat, 115 bushels of oats, 1,750 bushels of corn, 5,400 bundles of fodder, 17,818 pounds of pork, 28,275 pounds of beef, 3,708 pounds of mutton, 2,760 pounds of butter, 1,023 chickens, 52 turkeys, 40 guineas.

Truck Patch—2½ acres of cabbage, 1 acre of turnips, ½ acre of tobacco, 115 bushels of onions, 400 bushels of tomatoes, 50 bushels of beets, ¼ acre of celery, 50 bushels of beans, 20 bushels of peas, 1 acre of sweet corn, 1,730 boxes of strawberries, 140 boxes of raspberries.

**CHESTER COUNTY CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.**

Several children have passed from the care of our Aid Society during the past year; four have reached their majority and appear practical, provident, and useful as they emerge into active life. Three have been returned to relatives, 2 died, and 3 have been placed in institutions. Since last report 20 children have been added to our number. Under our supervision at this date there are 138 county wards—116 in free homes, 22 in boarding homes.

We have also in our care a class of children whose names have never been upon the county register, but their young lives have been shadowed from the beginning, having been deprived of the wholesome guardianship of the motherly eye and the ripeness of motherly counsel. Many indigent mothers, by timely advice and assistance, have been restored to high hopes and noble purposes.

In all our efforts to uplift these unfortunates our Directors of the Poor have extended their generous support and encouragement. It is fully believed that in a faithful pursuance of our work the results will be far-reaching; thus we would save, if possible, our hapless, helpless boys and girls. For God's promise of strength is to him that visiteth the fatherless and considereth the poor.

Officers—Miss Ellen P. Way, President; Miss Amy Larkin, Vice President; Mrs. L. B. Walton, Secretary; Mrs. W. M. Marshall, Treasurer.

**ERIE COUNTY.**

Report of population of Erie County Almshouse September 30, 1902: Sane—men, 86; women, 47; children, 2; total, 135. Insane—men, 18; women, 32; children, 0; total, 50. Total—men, 104; women, 79; children, 2; total, 185.

Average number inmates during year, 193; average cost per week per inmate, \$1.72.

WILLIAM M. BROWN, Superintendent.

**FAYETTE COUNTY.**

The Directors of the Poor of Fayette County have during the last year made considerable improvements in the way of painting and calco-mining. We erected a water tank on the outside of the building, costing \$1,100. It is erected on a steel frame fifty-one feet high, and holds 25,000 gallons of water; also a hog pen and slaughterhouse combined, costing \$1,000.

Our farm, as I have said before, contains 129 acres of land in good state of cultivation, and is operated by one chief farmer, assisted by all inmates able to work. The Steward, who is elected by the Board of Directors, has full control of all the employees. At present we have at the home, September 30, 1902, the following:

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Inmates ..... | 115 |
| Males .....   | 63  |
| Females ..... | 50  |
| Babies .....  | 2   |

Of this number there are 68 native born and 43 foreign born. We have admitted this year 178; males 115, females 39, children 24. There have been removed by death 34; males 30, females 3, and babies 1.

We have at present of the insane at Dixmont 107 and at Wernersville 11, making in all 118 insane chargeable to our County Commissioners. We do not keep any insane at the home.

We have, September 30, 1902, children chargeable to the Poor Board at boarding homes, 28; feeble-minded at Polk, 26; at other institutions, 5, making in all 59. Our average for last year was 174 inmates. Cost of maintaining is \$1.97 per week. The total cost for last year was \$26,-977.43. Outdoor relief, \$3,904.47; boarding, clothing, and transferring children, \$2,516.63; for feeble-minded at Polk and other institutions, \$6,000, leaving about \$14,500 as the expenses of the home.

The present managers of the home are as follows: Directors—H. H. Wiggins, O. G. Chick, and T. H. Ryan. Officers—Steward, S. D. New-comer; Matron, Jennie Newcomer; Clerk, Elizabeth Newcomer; Attorney, Davis W. Henderson, and Physician, J. W. Parshall.

**REPORT OF CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF FAYETTE COUNTY.**

By Mrs. Hugh L. Rankin, President.

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Number of children in boarding homes October 1, 1901.....           | 24 |
| Number of children received during the year—                        |    |
| From Superintendent of County Home.....                             | 15 |
| From Humane Agents .....  | 9  |
| From parents and Guardians.....                                     | 6  |
| Returned to our county.....   | 5  |
| Total number received from all sources during the year.....         | 35 |
| Total number in boarding homes and received during the past year... | 59 |
| Returned to parents and friends.....                                | 24 |
| Placed in other counties.....                                       | 8  |
| Adopted in our county .....   | 6  |
| Placed in free homes.....   | 8  |
| Had adopted in other counties .....                                 | 4  |
| Died in boarding homes and hospitals .....                          | 4  |
| Placed in Indiana Industrial School for Girls.....                  | 1  |
| Placed in Pittsburg Industrial School for Boys.....                 | 1  |
| Children released to support themselves.....                        | 13 |
| Children working for wages under our care.....                      | 5  |
| Total number passed from our care during the past year.....         | 59 |

**In Boarding Homes.**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Children belonging to last year's report.....                                 | 11  |
| New children of this year.....  | 19  |
| Total number in boarding homes October 1, 1902.....                           | 30  |
| Children under our care since reorganized.....                                | 383 |
| Children under our care for the year.....                                     | 143 |
| Children under our care at present.....                                       | 84  |
| Total number in boarding homes and passed from our care during the year ..... | 89  |



Every year we find our work increases. Not only do we have our regular duties and work that belongs to our society, but we have so much outside work with the different classes of people that come to us for advice and assistance when taking children not belonging to us and wishing to have them adopted, but do not understand how to have it done. We freely give them all the assistance we can. This past year we have made especial efforts to get as many of our little ones as we could legally adopted, after we have personally investigated, or had investigated by people we had confidence in, the homes and family where the child was on trial, not only in our own county, but also in other counties where we had children.

In this work we have not only had the assistance of our own attorney, but attorneys in other counties where the child was to be adopted, giving their services with small charges. To cover the court expenses we have not only the support of our Judges in the good work, but encouragement from them in this line. We must mention the assistance given us by our own two Justices of the Peace, as well as the Justices of the Peace in other towns, who give their services free of charge; and to the Steward and Matron of our County Home, as well as our Directors, are due our sincere thanks for their many kindnesses and their efforts to "hold up our hands" in this good work.

### FRANKLIN COUNTY.

The management of the Franklin County Almshouse during the past year, we believe, has been highly satisfactory to the people of the county. The grand juries that have visited us have given very flattering reports to the Court, the officials of the Board of Public Charities have praised our management, and we have every reason to feel proud of our institution. The most notable improvement of the past year has been the beautifying of our insane department, which has added much to the comfort and pleasure of its unfortunate inmates. In this department we have 34 men and women. The inmates of the whole institution numbered 108.

We support in the insane hospitals of the State 8 men and women. We have in homes and private families 29 children. The Board of Directors is as follows: George F. Summers, President, Chambersburg, Pa.; John R. Pilgrim, Chambersburg, Pa.; Jerome Delrich, Marks, Pa. The officers are: Jacob Potter, Steward, Chambersburg; Rebecca Potter, Matron, Chambersburg; H. K. Benbrake, Physician, Chambersburg; S. M. Shillito, Treasurer, Chambersburg; C. A. Suesserott, Clerk, Chambersburg; Jacob Heckman, Chaplain, Chambersburg.

The home is located one and one-half miles east of Chambersburg, Pa., in a delightful part of the county.

The total expense of the board for the past year was as follows:

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| House expenses .....         | \$ 5,615 50 |
| Farm expenses .....          | 695 18      |
| Salaries, etc .....          | 2,989 89    |
| Outdoor expenses .....       | 6,784 63    |
| Miscellaneous expenses ..... | 1,481 15    |

Total expenses .....\$17,566 35

### HUNTINGDON COUNTY.

October 7, 1902.

The Huntingdon County Almshouse, situated in the Augwick Valley, near the south end of Sairleysburg, is a brick building, 60 by 120. It is a healthy location, in the midst of a fertile district, supplied with running water from a spring near by, and there are about 200 acres of land connected with the institution, most of which is farmed. The buildings are kept in good repair. Steam heat and an improved system of ventilation are used, and it is the aim of the Directors and Steward to have all the modern conveniences necessary in a well-regulated Almshouse.

The Directors meet at the Almshouse regularly the first Tuesday of each month and at such other times as are considered necessary.

Average number of inmates during the last year, 51; total number of inmates admitted, 35; total number receiving outdoor relief, 341.

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Twenty-one physicians for outdoor services ..... | \$ 640 00 |
| Paid Orphans' Home.....                          | 1,500 00  |
| Paid Lunatic Asylum .....                        | 1,120 50  |
| Outdoor burials .....                            | 265 95    |
| State Hospital for Insane.....                   | 91 25     |
| Home for Chronic Insane .....                    | 39 00     |
| Home for Feeble Minded.....                      | 163 67    |
| Outdoor relief .....                             | 3,973 47  |
| Other outdoor expenses .....                     | 748 09    |
| Expenditures for farm .....                      | 1,254 82  |
| For provisions .....                             | 241 12    |
| Merchandise .....                                | 1,009 44  |
| Removals .....                                   | 246 70    |
| Miscellaneous .....                              | 639 11    |
| Salaries .....                                   | 1,490 01  |
| Extraordinary expenses .....                     | 366 43    |

Various improvements have been made during the year, which add greatly to the comfort of the inmates and the efficiency of the institution, namely, the placing of a slate roof on the main building of the Almshouse; also the erecting of a new implement house and cellar combined.

Officers: Directors—Robert Mason, Huntingdon; C. K. Horton, Broad Top City; Jehu Madden, Meadow Gap; John S. Appleby, Steward; Mrs. C. Appleby, Matron; John Douglass, Clerk; Dr. Z. B. Taylor, House Physician; James S. Woods, Attorney.

## LACKAWANNA COUNTY.

### Scranton Poor District.

This district is composed of the City of Scranton and the Borough of Dunmore. Its property is located nine miles from the city and two miles from Clark's Summit Station, on the Lackawanna Railroad, and consists of a farm of 360 acres. All the buildings at present for the insane and dependent sane and other inmates are within an enclosure of 13 3-10 acres, protected by a high iron fence, and no persons admitted without a permit. A more extended description of the premises may be found in the twenty-seventh annual report of the Association, page 91, our last annual report, and for the year.

The average daily number of patients was 466, and per capita cost of maintaining paupers and insane, including food, clothing, light, heat, medicines, salaries of Superintendent, Matron, Resident Physician, attendants, etc., exclusive of farm produce, was \$1.96 per week. Admitted during the year—Sane, 123; insane, 67; born, 2; total, 192. Discharged during the year—Sane, 108; insane, 40; died, sane 26, insane, 27; total, 201. Remaining at close of year—Sane, 204; insane, 254; total, 458.

Value of farm produce, \$7,482.

Cash received for Board of Inmates, \$5,821.

Total disbursements for year, \$104,529, classified as follows:

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Salaries and services .....    | \$ 20,526 00 |
| Outdoor relief .....           | 16,198 00    |
| Supplies .....                 | 39,370 00    |
| Improvements and repairs ..... | 23,548 00    |
| Printing and stationery .....  | 796 00       |
| Furniture .....                | 1,854 00     |
| Miscellaneous .....            | 2,237 00     |

Total .....\$104,529 00

Total moneys received from all sources by the Treasurer, \$116,271. Value of personal property, \$87,930;; value of real estate, \$344,000. Our capacity for inmates is rapidly reaching its limit, and the Board of

Directors are now seriously considering plans for a new Almshouse, to be erected outside of our present enclosure, to accommodate all of our sane inmates, thus separating entirely the sane from the insane. We heartily believe in this kind of divorce.

Our population at the home on September 30, 1902, was 479, classified as follows: Insane—Males, 124; females, 143; total, 267. Sane—Males, 149; females, 63; total, 212.

The present Board of Directors are: R. G. Brooks, Frederick Fuller, Thomas Shotton, Samuel Williams, Dr. W. A. Paine, Timothy Burke, and F. J. Dickert. Officers of the board—R. G. Brooks, President; C. J. Gillespie, Secretary; Ambrose Herz, Treasurer; John F. Scragg, Solicitor; H. G. Dale, Tax Collector, and Dr. Herman Bessey, Dr. B. G. Beddoe, Dr. P. F. Gunster, Dr. M. H. Quinn, and Dr. W. H. McGreevy, Outdoor Physicians.

Officers at Hillside Home—George W. Beemer, Superintendent; Mrs. Jennie Beemer, Matron; Dr. William Lynch, Resident Physician; Howard P. Davies, Clerk; Rev. P. J. Gough and William Parsons, Chaplains.

### LANCASTER COUNTY.

The Lancaster County Almshouse, Hospital, and Insane Asylums are situated on the old Philadelphia Pike about one mile from the City of Lancaster, on a farm consisting of about 198 acres. The institutions are governed by a board of six Directors, elected by the taxpayers of Lancaster County to serve a term of three years. Two Directors are elected every year.

The Almshouse, with a capacity of 325 inmates, has at the present time—Males, 124; females, 26, making a total of 150 inmates.

The New Insane Department which was occupied March 13, 1901, with a capacity of 150 inmates has—Males, 40; females, 40; total, 80.

The old Insane Department which is connected to the new with a covered bridge has—Males, 60; females, 52; making a total of insane patients in the several asylums of—Males, 100; females, 92.

The Hospital, or the old Almshouse, with a capacity of 125 inmates, has—Males, 61; females, 43; making a total of 104.

We employ in the Insane Department the following: Female attendants, 5; male attendants, 7; cooks, 1.

In the hospital there are 3 male attendants and 1 Matron.

The following are maintained in other institutions: Harrisburg State Asylum, 8; Wernersville State Asylum, 6; Norristown State Asylum, 1.

Children at Elwyn School for Feeble-Minded Children, 24.

Children out on boarding over two years and under four years under the supervision of the Pennsylvania Children's Aid Society, 46.

The institutions are managed by the following Directors: H. W. Graybill, President; J. S. Strine, J. K. Frantz, J. H. Weaver, Fred Shoff, and C. L. Nissley.

### LUZERNE COUNTY.

#### Central Poor District.

Annual statement of the receipts, disbursements, and expenditures of the Directors of the Central Poor District of Luzerne County, and the property, real and personal, held by them, during the year 1901:

#### Receipts.

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| To amount on hand January 22, 1901.....  | \$ 1,721 39  |
| To amount received from collectors for taxes.....  | 113,122 41   |
| To amount received from State Treasurer toward the support<br>of indigent insane persons ..... | 25,927 51    |
| To amount received from all other sources.....   | 6,301 01     |
| Total received .....   | \$147,072 32 |

**Disbursements.**

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| By amount paid for maintenance at hospital.....                          | \$ 49,932 26        |
| By amount paid for maintenance of indigent poor at almshouse .....       | 17,583 53           |
| By amount paid for outdoor relief, medical attendance, and burials ..... | 12,996 68           |
| By amount paid on floating debt.....                                     | 19,000 00           |
| By amount on bonded debt.....  | 7,000 00            |
| New construction .....   | 22,371 31           |
| Miscellaneous expenditures .....   | 15,836 58           |
| <b>Total disbursements .....</b>   | <b>\$144,720 36</b> |
| Balance on hand .....  | 2,351 96            |

**Inventory and Real Estate of the Central Poor District.****REAL ESTATE.**

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Almshouse department .....     | \$ 85,922 96        |
| Hospital for the insane.....   | 311,420 96          |
| <b>Total real estate .....</b> | <b>\$397,343 92</b> |

**PERSONAL PROPERTY.**

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Almshouse .....                                 | \$ 11,028 60        |
| Hospital .....                                  | 20,494 21           |
| <b>Total personal property .....</b>            | <b>\$ 31,522 81</b> |
| <b>Total value of property of district.....</b> | <b>\$428,866 73</b> |

**Liabilities.**

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Bonded debt, 3½ per cent, average number of years, 12½ .....                            | \$200,000 00        |
| Floating debt, January 22, 1902.....  | 23,000 00           |
| <b>Total liabilities .....</b>  | <b>\$223,000 00</b> |
| Resources over and above liabilities .....  | \$205,866 73        |
| Assessed valuation of taxable property.....   | \$22,316,688 00     |
| Real valuation, 1901 .....  | \$89,266,752 00     |
| Population of district, 1901 .....  | 145,943             |
| Number of taxables, 1901 .....  | 45,278              |
| Tax levy for 1901, 5½ mills, on assessed valuation amount of tax due for year 1901..... | \$ 122,971 43       |

**Report of Steward and Manager of the Almshouse and Farm.**

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Estimated value of all products derived from farm is \$5,451.86. |             |
| Number of persons on hand and admitted, male.....                | 327         |
| Number of persons on hand and admitted, female.....              | 120         |
| Number of persons on hand and admitted, children.....            | 47          |
| Number of persons discharged during year.....                    | 290         |
| Number of persons remaining at end of year.....                  | 204         |
| Average number during the year.....                              | 182         |
| Cost of each inmate per week.....                                | \$1.80 4-10 |

**Hospital.**

The number of inmates in the hospital for the insane December 31, 1901—Males, 207; females, 163; total, 370. Average number during year, 345.

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Total cost of maintenance .....                                       | \$49,932 26           |
| Received from State Treasurer and other sources for maintenance ..... | \$31,008 82           |
| Amount received from Central Poor District.....                       | 18,923 44—\$49,932 26 |

For all patients, including income from all sources, the weekly per capita cost was \$2.81, and for the Central Poor District the maintenance of its own patients the per capita cost was \$1.23. The cost to the Central Poor District for maintenance of its patients for the year (15,446 weeks) at the State Hospital for the Insane at the legal charge, \$1.75



per week, would have been \$27,030.50, and deducting from this amount the sum which maintenance cost the district, we have a difference of \$8,107.06, which is more than sufficient to pay the interest on the construction bonds. Respectfully submitted,

ABRAM NESBITT,  
President;  
S. W. DAVENPORT,  
Secretary and Treasurer;  
LOUIS TISCH,  
CHARLES A. WESTFIELD,  
J. H. OPLINGER,  
GEORGE H. BUTLER,  
GEORGE H. SHIFFER,  
A. P. CHILDS,  
Directors.

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

On the Schuylkill River, ten miles from the county seat, Norristown, Pa., is located the Montgomery County Almshouse. The farm contains about 300 acres of fertile land. The buildings are of stone, in good condition, and pleasantly situated, facing the river on the south. A two-story infirmary and hospital was built in 1900, at a cost of about \$25,000. During the present year an artesian well was sunk 518 feet deep and gives a never-failing supply of good water to the institution; 3,000 gallons per hour can be pumped if required.

The average number of inmates during the past year was 208. Net cost per week for each inmate, \$1.53.

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Total amount of orders granted during last year.... | \$42,014 08          |
| Total receipts at Almshouse .....                   | \$ 4,719 99          |
| Outside relief furnished .....                      | 14,459 08            |
| Permanent improvements, etc. ....                   | 6,230 95—\$25,410 02 |

Net expense of running Almshouse..... \$16,604 06

Officials: Directors—John R. Kindig, President, Hatfield, Pa.; John H. McDowell, Red Hill, Pa.; James K. Thomson, Norristown, Pa. Steward, J. Frank Voorhees, Royersford, Pa.; Secretary and Solicitor, Edward E. Long, Norristown, Pa.; Physician, Dr. M. Y. Weber, Lower Providence, Pa.

### YORK COUNTY.

York, Pa., Oct. 11, 1902.

The York County Almshouse is situated in the northeastern part of the City of York. The farm originally contained 110 acres of land, which was all used for farming purposes, except about seven acres, upon which the buildings are located. A few years ago eighty-eight acres of the farm were sold for \$61,600, or \$700 per acre. There has been some talk of building a new Almshouse and locating it out from the city about three or four miles, but up to the present time nothing definite has been done in the matter.

The number of inmates are as follows: Male, 108; female, 82; children, 7. Feeble-minded—Male, 18; female, 20. Average number, 210.

The method of raising money for the expenses of the institution is to make an estimate of the probable expenses for the year and then make a requisition on the County Commissioners for the amount. We have invested in good securities the sum of \$19,388.86, realized from the sale of land, etc. The expenses of the institution are as follows: Outdoor relief, \$2,305; maintenance of institution, \$25,445.85; total, \$27,750.86.

The Directors are: James Anderson, President; Matthew D. Porman, William Anthony. Steward, T. C. Wigginton; Clerk, H. M. Rebert; Physician, H. H. Jones; Treasurer, William R. Horner; Attorney, Franklin M. Bortner.















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Directors of the Poor

JUN 3 1885

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Form 47

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